








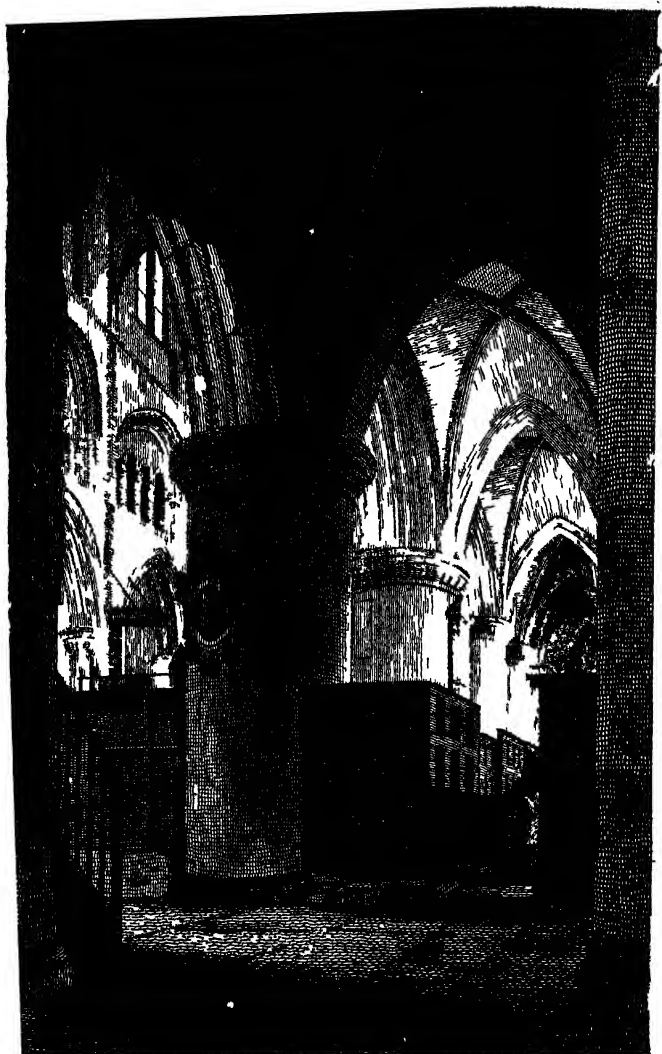






History of Wiltshire  
vol. 15  
By - John Britton  
1814

  
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M A L M E S B U R Y A B B E Y C H U R C H,  
 Wiltshire

TO  
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL HOULTON.  
OF  
FARLEY-CASTLE.

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DEAR SIR,

*I INSCRIBE this account of Wiltshire to you from motives of gratitude and regard. During my frequent visits to this, my native county, your kindness and personal attentions rendered those visits often very pleasant, and proved useful to my researches. To you I am also indebted for part of the contents of this volume, and likewise for some of its embellishments. Hence you are particularly entitled to this trifling compliment; and it affords me no small degree of pleasure in expressing my sentiments, and in recording your name as a patron to this topographical collection for Wiltshire.*

*Remain, dear Sir,*

*Your obliged and obedient Servant,*

*Aug. 1802.*

**JOHN BRITTON**



## PREFACE.

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**THE** county of Wilts, which constitutes the subject of the following essay, is a district peculiarly interesting to the topographer and antiquary. To the latter, indeed, it offers a wider and more varied field for research than perhaps any other county in England. The grand and mysterious monuments of Stonehenge and Avebury, and the numerous barrows, which cover its plains, are relics of an age anterior to historical record, and of which the annals of the world do not furnish a parallel example. Like the proud pyramids of Egypt, the former were calculated by their construction to subsist to an almost endless futurity, and would probably have remained entire to the present period, if the agency of the elements had not been assisted by the destructive influence of man. In the Wansdike, Bokerly Ditch, and Grimsditch; and in the simpler entrenchments with which the county abounds, we  
behold



## PREFACE.

behold the remains of British towns, and perceive the mode adopted by the Britons to mark boundaries, and form communications. The castles of Old Sarum, Scratchbury, Battlesbury, and Bratton, display the efforts of a more advanced period, and with many other of the Wiltshire entrenched works, bear the marks of successive occupation by the Romans, the Romo-Britons, the Saxons, and the Danes. This portion of the kingdom indeed seems to have been the principal theatre of the military and civil events, which were consequent on the Saxon and Danish invasions. Here the far famed Arthur, and the still more illustrious Alfred contended at different periods for the liberties of their country, and checked for a time the tide of invading conquest. At Ludgershall, Devizes, Malmsbury, and Marlborough, the vestiges of Norman fortresses may yet be traced; and in Clarendon Park stood a sumptuous palace, erected by King John. Malmsbury yet preserves the ruins of a magnificent abbey; and in the cathedral of Salisbury we behold an edifice surpassing every similar ancient structure in uniformity of style and symmetry of parts. Many of the parochial churches in the county, likewise, are objects worthy the examination of the antiquary as specimens of architectural skill, and science; and in Wilton-House, Longford-Castle, Font-Hill, Corsham-House, Bowood, Tottenham-Park, Charlton-Park, Stourhead, and Longleat, we

are presented with mansions alike celebrated for magnificence and beauty of scenery, and for popular attractions to the connoisseurs and artists of the country.

The above circumstances considered, it is truly surprising that no County History of Wiltshire has hitherto appeared, nor any essential progress been made towards that object, though the task has been several times proposed, and partially undertaken. The following essay is the only work hitherto published which describes every part of the county; and though I have to lament that it is faulty in several respects, I flatter myself it will be found to contain much useful, accurate, and original information. Had some of the gentlemen of the county, who are particularly qualified to assist me by communications, been as attentive to my inquiries as many others, the present volume would have been more circumstantial, and accurate. What is here done may nevertheless be considered as a greater advance towards a full elucidation of the topography and antiquities of this interesting district than has been effected by any previous writer. Possessing numerous papers and documents relative to Wiltshire already, and as a native, feeling a deep interest in its prosperity and honour, I am determined to continue my researches and collections towards a History of the County, and should I meet with the encouragement

couragement and support indispensable to such an undertaking, will, in due time, endeavour to arrange them, and submit them to the public judgment. Should I never be able to fulfil my wishes, I shall nevertheless have the consolation of reflecting that I have done more than any of my predecessors; that in doing this I have struggled with, and overcome many difficulties; and that I shall leave behind me a large mass of materials for some future historian.

To those noblemen and gentlemen who have contributed towards the execution of this work, I beg leave sincerely to offer my best thanks. I only refrain from mentioning their names from circumstances connected with its publication, which it is unnecessary to notice.

JOHN BRITTON.

*Tavistock Place, London,*

*August 25, 1814.*



## WILTSHIRE,

**OR** the county of Wilts, is a part of the island peculiarly interesting to the historian, antiquary, topographer, and connoisseur: for it is replete with monuments of ancient times, is known to have been the theatre of many political and heroic events, and displays, to the cultivated mind, some valuable collections of pictures, and of classical sculpture. The agriculturalist and geologist may each be delighted and instructed by a careful investigation of the natural surface, and internal stratification, of this portion of Great Britain. Within its ample bounds are contained several varieties of soil and substrata; as well as many species of deciduous and exotic productions. To elucidate the history, and describe the characteristics of all these objects is the duty of the topographer; and in the present *Essay towards a History of Wiltshire*, it is our intention to perform this duty, with care and assiduity. Our limits, however, being circumscribed, will necessarily impel us to be brief on all occasions: yet, it is hoped, that nothing of an important historical nature will be omitted or neglected; and on the antiquities of the county we propose to be circumstantial. This department will demand all our solicitude and fastidiousness; for the vast druidical temples at Avebury, and on Salisbury Plain, as well as the numerous barrows, ~~ant~~ cromlechs, and ancient earthworks of this county have already occasioned much desultory dissertation, and have been the source of much hypothetical controversy. If we are not fortunate enough to elucidate the origin and appropriation of these, we shall be very cautious of trespassing on the patience and good sense of the reader by prolix narratives made up of conjecture and fable.

Mr. Britton having recently published a topographical work respecting this county,\* it may be thought that we shall merely give a transcript, or new version of that publication: but the present will be completely new;—will be very dissimilar to the former;—will embrace all the essential topographical materials of Wiltshire, and will comprise more particular accounts of some places, and be restrained to a few general notices of others. As this county has never been illustrated by a local historian, the task of collecting information, and investigating authorities, is particularly arduous, but the completion will be more novel and interesting. The former work was injudiciously called the *Beauties of Wiltshire*; this bears the same title: that was devoted chiefly to seats, scenery, and the fine arts; this will be more attentive to antiquities, history, and science. Still, however, it will not neglect the former subjects: for, with many persons, they are regarded with great pleasure and enthusiasm. It will be our aim to gratify such readers, in pointing out the chief objects of curiosity and beauty in the splendid seats of Longford Castle, Wilton House, Stourhead, Fonthill, Wardour Castle, Corsham House, and Charlton House. But before we proceed to any particular place, or enter the strict province of topography, it is necessary to detail, and bear in mind, some general characteristics of the county: to narrate a few of those events which may be regarded as properly connected with the history of Wiltshire, and which likewise form component parts of the annals of the island.

Wiltshire is an inland county, situated towards the south-western division of England, and derives its name from the town of Wilton, which, according to some ancient historians, was the metropolis of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Wessex. On the north and north-west it is bounded by Gloucestershire: on the south-west by Dorsetshire; on the south and east by Hampshire; and on the north-east by the county of Berks. These boundaries are in general artificial, and constitute a figure approaching that of

The title, extent, and subjects, of this work will be specified in the Topographical List at the end of this county.

of an ellipse, having its major axis inclining north and south. Concerning the extent and superficial area of this county, various statements are made by different writers. In the *Magna Britannia* it is said to be thirty nine miles in length, from north to south; and thirty in breadth, from east to west. Gough, in his additions to Camden's *Britannia*, estimates its length at forty-nine miles, and its breadth at thirty-seven. Its circumference, according to the same author, is one hundred and fifty miles, and the number of acres it contains 876,000. Mr. Davis,\* whose authority on this subject is probably the best we can adopt, states its length to be fifty-four miles, and its breadth to be thirty-four. This gentleman further computes the superficial area to comprehend 1372 square miles, or 878,000 acres.

**HISTORICAL EVENTS.**—The early history of England, as of most countries that have attained distinction in the world, is deeply involved in obscurity and fable. Nations, no less than individuals, are very generally influenced by the pride of antiquity, and seem to regard an ancient and illustrious origin as calculated to diffuse greater glory over their names than the most renowned actions, or the highest elevation of genius. Hence, the first historians of a country, instead of endeavouring to divest its traditions of that air of romance which they almost necessarily acquire, are led to heighten the colouring by the efforts of their own imaginations. A petty native chief, or foreign adventurer, is raised in fancy to the rank of a powerful monarch, or even an omnipotent deity; and the savage contest of a few barbarians is dignified with the appellation of the "combat of heroes." But not only is this delusion fostered by the earliest writers; it is likewise not unfrequently supported by modern antiquaries, whose

B 2

learning

\* Davis's "General View of the Agriculture of Wiltshire." *Introd.* p. 12. 8vo. 2nd edit. 1811. This gentleman was Steward, for many years, to the Marquis of Bath, and was much respected for private worth and for general knowledge. In a subsequent page we shall have occasion to mention him again.

learning and experience should have directed them to more accurate investigations, and more judicious conclusions. The most trivial coincidence of customs among two uncivilized tribes, or the most distant resemblance between any monuments of antiquity which may be found in the countries they inhabited, however remote from each other, is frequently considered as decided evidence of their being sprung from one common stock.

Whether such is the case with mankind, considered in relation to the species in general, is a question nearly set at rest by the profound investigations of modern philosophers. But that it is possible to determine what particular tribe or nation first colonized any country, merely from a slight agreement in their domestic economy, or method of building, is a proposition we cannot so readily admit, more especially when we consider the barbarous condition of man in the remote ages to which these observations allude. The lower nations are found to be in the scale of civilization, the nearer will they be observed to approximate each other in manners and customs. Arrived at a certain point the influence of moral causes (the chief source of the variations observable in the human race,) almost entirely ceases, and physical causes alone constitute the ground of distinction between one individual and another. At this point, which we may fix considerably above the savage state, man is discovered in a sort of instinctive condition, little superior to that of brutes, which, in whatever quarter of the world they are placed, evince the same habits, only slightly modified by the diversities of inanimate nature. The similarities traced between remote, or even neighbouring nations, then, before they have fully emerged from barbarism, ought rather to be regarded as accidental, or as resulting from the constitution of man, and the general relations in which he stands with regard to the external world, than as the effect of a particular, or national train of education.

We have been led into these remarks in consequence of having examined many desultory and fabulous statements in our old historians; and also from a knowledge that many of these are accredited,

dited, and again detailed by some modern topographers and antiquaries. It has been asserted, among other strange things, that the Phœnician Hercules established a colony in this county: and this assertion is chiefly founded on a supposed resemblance which Dr. Stukeley had discovered between the form of the city of Old Sarum and that of Alesia in Gaul, described by Julius Cæsar, and traditionally said to have been the work of the same fabulous and deified character.\* That the Phœnicians were at one period acquainted with the Scilly Islands, or the coast of Cornwall, and traded thither for tin, there is some reason to believe from several passages in the Grecian and Roman historians and geographers; but the supposition that they formed a permanent settlement within the limits of this county does not appear to be supported by any species of authentic evidence. A resemblance between the two cities above mentioned, even were it fully ascertained, would not amount to a proof of identity in their origin.

Laying aside then this view of the original colonization of Wiltshire, as entirely supposititious, and passing over the conjectures concerning the peopling of Britain by the Kimmerians, the Celts, and Scythians, we shall simply remark, that at the period of the invasions of our island by Julius Cæsar, a people called the *Belgæ* seem to have inhabited a portion of this county.† The *Hædui* are said to have occupied its north-western division, near the source of the Avon, and about Cricklade.‡ Another district is mentioned by Carte as being subsequently possessed by the *Carvili*, so named from their prince Carvilius: but whether these people were some of the Belgæ, or a distinct tribe, does not precisely appear.§ Other authors further suppose that the *Cangi*

B 3

inhabited

\* "Itinerarium Curiosum," by Stukeley, Vol. I. p. 175. On the character of Hercules, and the Phœnician colonization of any part of Britain, see some judicious animadversions in Dr. Maton's "Observations on the Western Counties of England," 2 vols. 8vo.; also in the Beauties of England, in Cornwall and Devonshire.

† Whitaker's History of Manchester, Vol. I. p. 60, 413, 4to. ‡ Ibid. p. 61

§ Carte's History of England, Vol. I. p. 94.



inhabited the northern parts, if not at this era, at least soon after it; and this opinion, we are informed by the editor of the *Magna Britannia*, received the support of the learned Dr. Tanner, Bishop of St. Asaph's,\* who is said to "have made a strict search into the antiquities of this county, in order to publish an account of them;" but his work has never been completed.

When the Romans, after the lapse of nearly a century from the final departure of Cæsar, again invaded Britain in the reign of Claudius, (A. D. 44) they found the political condition and relations of its several tribes very materially altered. The Belgæ had now subdued the whole of Wiltshire, and had likewise possessed themselves of all the territories of the Hedui. This at least seems to be the opinion of Camden,† but some later writers suppose that the Cangi still continued to occupy the northern parts of the county; and in a map in Gough's edition of the great antiquary, the whole district, north of the Kennet, is comprehended within the dominions of the Attrebatî, or Attrebates.‡ Which of these different views respecting the population of Wiltshire is the most correct, it is now perhaps impossible to determine; nor is the enquiry of very material importance, unless in the

\* The chief, and indeed the only argument used by the Doctor in proof of his opinion is the similarity of the term Cangi, and the names of some towns and villages in this county; as *Cannings*, formerly written *Canningas*; and *Calne*, called in Domesday *Cauna*; which last still gives name to a hundred. *Magna Britannia*, Wiltshire.

† Camden's *Britannia*, Gough's edit. 1790, Vol. I. p. 55. The author, in this instance, is supposed to rest his opinion on a passage in Ptolemy, wherein the Belgæ are described as occupying the whole country south of the Dobuni, in Gloucestershire, that is to say, the whole, or the greater part of the country lying "between the Severn and the Bristol channel, with the cities of Bath and Ilchester." Milner's "History, &c, of Winchester," Vol. I. p. 26. ex Ptolemy, l. viii. c. iii.

‡ The last translator of the description of Britain by Richard of Cirencester, "the Belgæ occupied all those parts of Hants and Wilts not Segontiaci." Translation of Richard of Cirencester, p. 36.

the sequel we could obtain some substantial historical facts connected with it. It is very generally admitted that the Belgæ were the most powerful people in the south-western division of England at the era we now speak of; and no doubt is entertained of their having occupied all the southern district of this county, as far, at least, as the Wausdyke, which is therefore frequently designated by the appellation of "The great Belgic boundary."

To the progress of the conquest of our island by the Romans, the inhabitants of Wiltshire, particularly of its northern division, at first opposed a very powerful and determined resistance; but after their subjugation, by Vespasian, they seem either to have been completely held in subjection, or to have incorporated themselves with their conquerors, as we do not read of any wars carried on, nor of any disturbance arising within its limits during the period when it was included in the province of *BRITANNIA PRIMA*.\* Notwithstanding this circumstance, however, many stations, encampments, and other military vestigia of that people can still be traced in different parts of it; and we find it recorded to have been one of the last districts of Britain which was abandoned, when the Roman Emperors deemed it necessary to recall their armies from the distant provinces, in order to protect Italy itself against the mighty hordes of Goths and Vandals who had long threatened, and ultimately effected the overthrow of the Western empire.

Subsequent to the departure of the Romans, the earliest event of political importance which occurs in history respecting Wilt-

B 4

shire,

\* Carte's History of England, Vol. I. p. 102—3. Of the two suppositions above mentioned, respecting the condition of the Belgæ under the Roman government, the latter is certainly the more probable; for that people being the most commercial and civilized of any in England, it is natural to suppose they would soon find it their interest to adhere to the Romans, adopt their customs, and endeavour, as far as possible, to ingratiate themselves in their favour, or even to identify themselves with them as a nation. This idea seems to receive considerable support from the circumstance of the appellation "Belgæ" being entirely lost long before the Romans left our island.

shire is the massacre of three hundred British nobles, [on the spot where Stonehenge is situated, by the orders of Hengist, (leader of the first Saxon expedition to England,) who had invited them hither to a banquet, under the pretence of effecting a reconciliation between the Britons and himself.\* The truth of this dreadful catastrophe, however, is extremely doubtful, as it does not appear to be mentioned in any of the Saxon writers, and seems to rest solely upon the authority of Nennius, and a few of the British, or Welsh, bards, who were evidently interested in the propagation of stories calculated to excite feelings of enmity and revenge in the breasts of their countrymen, against a people, once their allies, but afterwards their inveterate and barbarous enemies. Carte says that this "story was borrowed from Witkind, who relates it of the Thuringians, that were murdered by the Saxons on a like occasion, and upon a signal given in the very same words made use of by the British writers."† Turner regards it as an incident which can neither be authenticated nor disproved;‡ and Whitaker asserts that the conquests of Hengist never extended beyond the limits of Kent; a circumstance, which, if fully established, would no doubt tend strongly to invalidate our belief of the transaction.§ Hume calls it a story "invented by the Welsh authors, in order to palliate the weak resistance made at first by their countrymen, and to account for the rapid progress, and licentious devastations of the Saxons."||

We come now to the period of the arrival of Cerdic, another  
Saxon

\* Jeffrey of Monmouth says, "the Saxons upon the signal given, drew out their daggers, and falling upon the princes, that little suspected any such design, assassinated to the number of four hundred and sixty of the barons and consuls, to whose bodies St. Eldad afterwards gave Christian burial not far from *Kaer-car-adane*, now Salisbury, in the burying place by the monastery, of Ambrius, the abbot, who was the founder of it." Thomson's Translation, p. 195. edit. Lond. 1718.

† Carte, Hist. England, Vol. I. p. 125.

‡ History of the Anglo-Saxons, Vol. I. p. 92. quart. edit.

§ History of Manchester, Vol. II. p. 28.

|| History of England, Vol. I. p. 23.

Saxon prince, who, according to the Saxon Chronicle, landed at "Certicesfore," which Matthew of Westminster supposes to have been a port on the western, or south-western coast of our island. Camden, however, assigns Cerdicland, near Yarmouth,\* as the place of this prince's landing, but that opinion is justly considered by Carte† to be improbable, as the scene of his actions lay chiefly, if not wholly, in the counties of Hants, Wilts, and Dorset. We are inclined to regard neither of these conjectures as correct, and conceive that his descent with the view of establishing the kingdom of Wessex must have taken place somewhere on the southern coast.‡ That he may have previously touched at some other part of England on his passage from his native country we do not deny; but if he did so, we presume it was assuredly only for the sake of refreshment, or from stress of weather, and not with any idea of permanent conquest.— This we conceive to be sufficiently corroborated by the fact, that no military transactions of Cerdic are noticed in the early writers, excepting those which occurred in Hampshire, and the southern portions of the counties immediately adjoining to it. § Hampshire,

\* Gough's Camden, Vol. II. p. 96.

† History of England, Vol. I. p. 199.

‡ "Certicesore" is evidently considered by Henry of Huntingdon, as being situated on the southern side of England. Saville's edition of English writers after Bede, p. 312.

To ascertain, at present, the precise point on this coast, at which he actually did land is perhaps impossible; but as several conjectures have been hazarded on this subject it may not be improper to mention them here. Gibson, in Chron. Sax. says that some learned men have conjectured "Certiscora to be Calshot, quasi Caldshore," at the entrance to the Southampton river. Carte places it at Charford, in Dorsetshire; and Dr. Milner thinks it more probably "was at Hengisbury-head, near Charford, or Cerdicesford, where a tradition of the inhabitants still testifies that a battle was fought between the Saxons and Britons, similar in its circumstances to that which took place at the landing of Cerdic." Milner's History of Winchester, Vol. I. p. 66. Carte's History of England, Vol. I. p. 199.

§ Camden, indeed, asserts that Cerdic maintained a fierce contest with the Iceni; but, contrary to the usual policy of this writer, he quotes no authority in support of the statement. Hannia, Vol. II. p. 93.

Hampshire, and a very small part of Dorsetshire, long constituted his whole principality; and this extent he seems to have encountered no less difficulty in subduing, than in retaining when subdued. Though frequently successful over the Britons in pitched battles, Cerdic found them not to be disheartened, but, on the contrary, to gain additional resolution, even from defeat. By reason of this intrepid and dauntless conduct of the natives, it was not till after the lapse of twenty-five years, from his first landing, that the Saxon general was enabled to advance into Wiltshire.\* In the year 520, however, having received considerable reinforcements from Saxony, and cut off a body of Britons which had been dispatched to intercept them, he collected all his disposable forces, and advanced to *Mount Badon*, or *Badbury Castle*,† a British post, then reckoned of great strength and importance, on account of its commanding situation, and its proximity to the concurrence of the Roman roads which intersect the north-eastern division of this county.

\* Whitaker's History of Manchester, Vol. II. p. 56, 57.

† Though we have adopted the opinion of Whitaker, in placing "*Mons Badonicus*" at Badbury Castle, and have little doubt of its correctness, yet it seems necessary to state that the situation of this post is a matter of considerable dispute amongst antiquaries and historians. Camden fixes it at the hill called Bannesdowne in the immediate vicinity of the village of Bathstone, apparently on the authority of Gildas, who says it lay near the Severn. Usher supposes it to be at modern Bath; but these suggestions are rendered improbable by the known anterior relative situation of the territories of the West Saxons, and of those belonging to the Britons. Badbury Castle, on the other hand is not liable to these objections; but on the contrary is a most likely place for the position of a British post of observation, at a time when Cerdic's dominions were confined to Hampshire. It is stationed on a lofty hill, in an open country, over which it commands a very widely extended prospect. Carte differs from all of these authors, and affirms that the "*Mons Badonicus*" is Badon hill, in Berkshire, by which we suppose he means the hills near the village of Bayton which lies on the immediate confines of Wiltshire. Our objection to this opinion is, that there is no appearance of any extensive fortified works in that neighbourhood. Gough's Camden, p. 62. Turner's Hist. of the Anglo-Saxons, Vol. I. p. 100. Carte's History of England, Vol. I. p. 205.

county.\* The illustrious Arthur, who so long upheld the falling fortunes of his country, immediately resolved to advance and relieve the garrison with a large army, which had been formed and disciplined under his own immediate inspection, and now burned with enthusiastic ardour to avenge the disasters of their countrymen. Cerdic, apprised of his intention, deemed it prudent to abandon the siege, and wait the approach of the enemy in battle array. The conflict was fierce and bloody, but in the end the genius of Arthur and British heroism prevailed over the superior science of the Saxon general, and the more steady conduct of his veteran troops. So complete, indeed, was the overthrow sustained by the invaders in this battle, that they are said not to have been in a condition to take the field again for the period of seven years; and most certainly did not renew their attempts to subjugate Wiltshire till the year 552. This victory, says Whitaker, was a most extraordinary one, "and completes the circle of Arthur's military glories. It was utterly unexpected by the Britons. It was considered by them nearly as miraculous; the effect of supernatural causes, and the work of interposing divinity. And it was attended with every circumstance of honour and advantage. The Saxons expected perpetual victories, and uninterrupted triumphs. Their fond hopes were effectually repressed, and a long peace ensued."†

At

\* One of these roads leads from Cirencester, by Wanborough and Baydon, the above mentioned, to Winchester, then the capital of Cerdic's dominions; the other, which is a vicinal way, strikes off from this road at Wanborough, and runs by Badbury, through Savernake forest, to Great Bedwin, Old Sarum, &c. &c. Both the roads are intersected by the Ridgeway, which Whitaker likewise calls a Roman road, but which is certainly a British path.

† The circumstance of peace having been granted to the Saxons, immediately after this battle, is considered by Mr. Tufner as decided evidence that, though it may have been gained by the British, it must have been dearly purchased; else why not have pursued the success, and drive the invaders from their settlements in Hampshire and Dorsetshire. *History of the Anglo-Saxons*, Vol. 1. p. 103, 4.

At length, however, this peace terminated, and offensive warfare was renewed, as already noticed, in the year 552. Kenric, the son of Cerdic, and his successor in the West Saxon monarchy, once more passed the frontiers of his dominions; and, marching over the Downs, threatened Sorbiodunum, or Old Sarum.\* Aware of the importance of that fortress, the British army immediately took up a position to secure its safety; but Arthur had long before then paid the debt of nature, and seems to have carried with him to the grave the mystic charm of victory which accompanied his person. The Britons fought with their usual intrepidity, and though defeated by the superior discipline of the Saxons, their conduct did not tarnish the ancient glory they had acquired. To verify this circumstance, it is only necessary to observe that, notwithstanding the capture of Sorbiodunum immediately following their victory, the Saxons took no less than four years to advance to "Beranbyrig," or Barbury Castle, in the vicinity of Marlborough, where another decisive battle was fought, in which fortune again favoured the invaders; and Wiltshire, in consequence, became incorporated in the kingdom of Wessex.†

After the death of Kenric, his son Ceaulin succeeded to the throne. This prince, like his predecessors, delighted in war, and carried his conquests a considerable way beyond the limits of his original dominions. In the midst of his career of glory, however, he

\* Whitaker. Hist. Manch. Vol. II. p. 75. Hen. Huntingdon. Hist. Savile, Rer. Angl. Script. p. 314.

† Whitaker. Hist. Manch. ubi supra; Hen. Huntingdon. Hist. ubi supra. The question concerning the northern boundary of Wessex is no less involved in obscurity than that concerning the limits of the Belgic dominions. Camden regarded the Wansdyke as a Saxon work, formed to separate the kingdoms of Mercia and Wessex, and seems to think that no part of Wiltshire, lying to the north of it, was ever included in the latter. Whitaker, on the other hand, appears to embrace the opinion that it comprehended the whole of Wiltshire; and this idea certainly receives considerable support from the statement of some of the ancient writers. Gough. Camden. Whit. Hist. Manch. ed. II. p. 94. Win. Malmesbury. Savile. Rer. Ang. p. 249.

he met with a check, from a quarter whence he had little reason to expect it. Ceola, or Ceolric, his own nephew, and son of the brave Cuthulf, rebelling against him, and advancing pretensions to the crown, was supported not only by the forces of his Saxon adherents, but also by some of the Britons\*. After several partial skirmishes, both parties came to the resolution of deciding their quarrel in a pitched battle. *Wednesbury* †, in this county, was the scene of contest, and witnessed the complete triumph of the ungrateful usurper ‡. Ceaulin was obliged to fly from his kingdom, and soon afterwards died in exile §.

Shortly after this period the Saxon kingdoms having become fully established, and the Britons confined within the boundaries of Wales, no actions with that people seem again to have taken place in Wiltshire. But though thus freed from the inroads of the Cymry, the inhabitants did not long enjoy tranquillity. The bond of common interest, which had hitherto maintained the appearance at least of amity among the Saxon kings, was broken ||. Each prince found himself alone sufficiently able to cope with the whole united forces of the brave, but exhausted Britons.

\* Turner says he allied himself with the Scoti and Cymry, or Britons. Hist. of the Angl. Sax. Vol. I. p. 129, 132.

† This place was situated on the Wansdyke. Turner's History of the Angl. Saxons, Vol. I. p. 132.

‡ Floren. Wigorn. Flores. Histor. per Mat. Westmon. p. 554. Francofurti. 1601.

§ Carte, Hist. England, Vol. I. p. 208.—Henry of Huntingdon differs materially from the other historians respecting this battle. While they regard it as having been fought between Ceolric and Ceaulin, for the County of Wessex, in the thirty-third year of the reign of the latter, he states Ceolric to have died in his thirtieth year, and that the battle took place three years after that event, during the government of Ceolric; and between the Saxons and Britons only. Hen. Hunt. Hist. Sayile, Re. Angl. Script. p. 315.

|| The first war between any of the Saxon monarchs broke out in the year 568, when Ethelbert, King of Kent, marched with a large army to invade Wessex, but was defeated by Ceaulin at Wibbandune, now Wimbornton in Surrey, and forced to retreat into his own dominions. Carte, Hist. England, Vol. I. p. 127.



Britons, and consequently regarded himself as wholly independent of his brother monarchs. This feeling of independence gave birth to ambition. The Saxon princes became jealous of each other. They disagreed concerning the extent of their territories, and their rights of pre-eminence; and as there existed no predominant tribunal to which they could appeal for a decision, war was the inevitable consequence. Ceolulf fought many severe battles against the Mercians, but none of them appear to have happened within the limits of Wiltshire. Cynegils, who succeeded this prince, and assumed, Cwichelme as a partner in the sovereignty,\* maintained a long contest with Edwin, king of Northumberland.† The latter prince, however, assisted by Penda, king of Mercia, whom he had rendered tributary to him, succeeded in seizing a great portion of the West-Saxon dominions from their legitimate rulers.‡

But notwithstanding these disasters, the kingdom of Wessex seems to have still continued comparatively powerful; for, in a few years subsequent, we find Cenwalch, the son and successor of Cynegils, braving the dangers of war, by repudiating his wife, the sister of King Penda, who had now become the greatest of the Saxon kings, in consequence of his victories over Edwin, and also over Oswald, king of Bernicia. His rashness, however, cost him dear, for Penda having entered his territories with a great army, drove him from his kingdom, and, for a time, subjected the whole of Wessex, and, consequently, this county, to his conquering sway. Cenwalch, however, about three years after, again recovered his dominions, and waged war against Wulphere,

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in Authors differ much respecting this prince, some calling him the brother of Cynegils, and others, his son. Carte, Hist. England, Vol. I. p. 226. do. y, Hist. Britain, Vol. III. p. 22. ex Chron. Saxon, p. 25. Florent. ing n. p. 558; ex Flor. Hist. per Mat. Westmon. Frankfort Edit. 1601. Han. Carte, Hist. England, Vol. I. p. 226—228.

shildwin was afterwards defeated and slain in Hatfield Forest, Yorkshire, of Penda, who proved himself one of the most blood-thirsty tyrants mentioned in the records of history. Carte, Hist. England, Vol. I. p. 228.—  
r's History of the Anglo-Saxons, Vol. I. p. 143.

Wulphere, the son of Penda; but, being still unsuccessful, he once more lost the greater part of his territories, which were partitioned out by the Mercian monarch.

On the death of Cenwalch without issue, his widow, Saxburga, assumed the sceptre of Wessex. This princess was distinguished both for the wisdom and vigour of her councils. While she augmented her army, and displayed a firm countenance to the enemy, she at the same time exercised the most lenient government over her own subjects. These, however, were still too barbarous to appreciate the propriety of her measures; and falsely considering it a derogation from the dignity of man to submit to the dominion of a woman, though adorned with the most heroic virtues, deprived her of the sovereignty, and placed the government, during ten years, in the hands of the more powerful nobles. Among the first of those who ruled in this period, we find mention made of Escuin, who is said to have led a powerful army against Wulphere. In the contest which ensued at *Great Bedwin*,\* in this county, "the mutual destruction was more conspicuous than the decision."† Wulphere was compelled to retreat to his own dominions; but Escuin was unable to follow up the blow. It is worth while, says an ancient historian, to observe how contemptible are the glorious wars and noble achievements of kings. The two monarchs who had thus, for the sake of pompous pride and vain glory, brought such disasters on the nations they governed, shortly after perished themselves: Wulphere died by disease the same year; and Escuin scarcely survived another.‡

At the accession of Ina, so celebrated for his legislation, and monastic endowments, the West-Saxons were engaged in a war with

\* This town is said to have been a place of great importance during the Saxon times. It was the metropolis of the prince, or great lord, who acted as Viceroy of Wiltshire and Berkshire under the king of Wessex. This will be more fully noticed in a subsequent account of Bedwin.

† Turner, Hist. Ang. Sax. Vol. I. p. 150—1.

‡ Hen. Huntingdon. Hist. Savile, Rer. Script. Angl. p. 318.

with the inhabitants of Kent, which continued during several years of this monarch's reign. He afterwards turned his arms against Ceolred, who had succeeded to the Mercian throne on the death of his cousin, Cenred. During this war a severe battle was fought at *Wodnesbury*,\* in which neither party could claim the victory; but the carnage on both sides was dreadful, and peace almost immediately followed.

The latter part of the eighth century was distinguished by the reign of the great Offa, king of Mercia, who having defeated Cynewulf, king of Wessex, in the disastrous field of Bensington, annexed all the country north of the Thames to his hereditary dominions. This arrangement, however, was not of very long duration. Egbert, having succeeded to the throne of Wessex, completely turned the tide of conquest, by the decisive victory at *Wilton*, which, in its consequences, surpassed all the previous actions of any Saxon monarch. For the power of Mercia being wholly broken by the destruction of her veteran army, and almost all the other states being tributary to that kingdom, Egbert rapidly effected their submission, and thereby rendered the whole of England dependent on the crown of Wessex.†

But

\* The situation of this place is very uncertain. Carte imagines it to be Wednesbury in Staffordshire, but that supposition seems extremely improbable, as we do not think the Mercian monarch, who was at that time the most powerful in England, would have allowed Ina to enter into the very heart of his territories without striking a blow, which must have been the case if Carte's idea is correct. Indeed, such was the posture of affairs previous to this battle, that we rather incline to think, in contradiction to that author, that Ceolred, and not Ina, was the aggressor; and that the battle above alluded to was fought at, or at least near, the same spot where the fate of Ceaulin had been previously decided. This appears to have been the opinion of Turner, who designates the scene of both actions precisely by the same name. *Hist. Anglo-Saxons*, Vol. I. p. 132—158.

† The general opinion that Egbert was the first monarch of England is certainly not well founded. The title "*Rex Anglorum*" never occurs in any record till after the time of Alfred. Asser, the friend and biographer of that monarch,

But though Egbert had thus subdued, either by force of arms, or by the terror of his name, all the Saxon kingdoms, he was not long permitted to remain in quiet possession of his usurped pre-eminence. A new horde of formidable enemies made a descent on the island in the thirty-second year of his reign: these were the Danes, from whose ravages Wiltshire particularly suffered. In the time of Ethelred, having overthrown the Saxon forces, first at Basingstoke, and afterwards at *Merantun*\*, they laid waste the greatest part of the county by fire and word. On the death of that prince, from a wound received in the disastrous field of Wimburne, the kingdom of Wessex devolved to his brother, the illustrious Alfred. This monarch quickly collecting an army, attacked the Danish forces with great impetuosity at a short distance from *Wilton*, and, after an obstinate contest, put them completely to flight. Unhappily, however, he pursued his success with so much incaution, that they were enabled to rally, and regain the day.

But

monarch, styles him always king of the West-Saxons, excepting towards the close of his reign, when he is called "Angli Saxonum Rex." It was not Egbert then that destroyed the kingdoms of Mercia, East-Anglia, and Northumbria: he only asserted the predominance of Wessex over them, and compelled them to acknowledge his superiority, by paying him some stipulated tribute. It was the Danish sword that completed the destruction of the kingdoms above named, and left Alfred the only Saxon monarch in England; but even he was not the sole king of Britain, because a Danish prince shared the sovereignty with him. Athelstan, who reigned more than a century subsequent to Egbert, and who succeeded in crushing the power of the Danes, is therefore the first of the Saxons who is justly entitled to the appellation of "founder of the English monarchy." *Turner's History of the Anglo-Saxons*, Vol. I. p. 183.—*Aster's Life of Alfred*, in *Camden's English Writers*; *passim*.—*Alfred of Beverley*, p. 93.

\* Some writers are of opinion that this last mentioned place was at Merton in Surrey; others think it is Merton in Oxfordshire; but most of our historians fix it at Marden, south east of Devizes, in Wiltshire. The previous defeat at Basingstoke, which is situated in Hampshire, certainly renders the common opinion the most probable; for it seems more likely that the West-

VOL. XV.—Jan. 1813. C Saxons

But though thus baffled, the army of Alfred remained unbroken; while that of the Danes suffered so grievously, that they deemed it advisable, notwithstanding their victory, to conclude a treaty with the West-Saxon monarch, which stipulated, that they should forthwith evacuate his dominions. This treaty was dated towards the close of the year 871; and from that time till 876, Alfred continued to enjoy the undisturbed possession of his kingdom; the Danish leaders being occupied, throughout the intervening period, in ravaging the other Saxon kingdoms, which they nearly annihilated. In the year last mentioned, however, a separate band of these marauding invaders seized upon Warcham, in Dorsetshire. Alfred immediately advanced against them; and happily, without coming to action, entered into a treaty with them also, upon the same terms as had been granted to their confederates. But notwithstanding the obligation of a solemn oath, and the delivery of hostages for the fulfilment of the stipulations thus agreed to, the same forces soon afterwards surprised Exeter; and, having fortified that town, occupied it during the winter.\* The next summer Alfred engaged them in several battles with various success, but ultimately compelled them to withdraw to their intrenchments, when they found it prudent to sue for peace.† This was accordingly granted upon similar conditions as before; though, as the event proved, to no beneficial purpose: for in the following year, without regard to their renewed engagements, they suddenly advanced to *Chippenham*, which appears to have been then a royal residence, and established their winter quarters in that town.‡ By this time they seem to have been joined by such numerous

Saxons would retreat through their own dominions, than that they would either enter Oxfordshire, or Surrey, which had previously submitted to the Danes. Carte's History of England, Vol. I. p. 298.—Spelman's Life of Alfred, p. 40. Edit. Oxford, 1709.

\* See Beauties of England, Vol. IV p 51.

† Spelman's Life of Alfred, p 50.

‡ Asser. De Gestis Ælfredi. ex Angl. Script. Camden, p 2.

merous reinforcements, that the Saxons became "panic struck," and the king was forced to retire with some of his nobility, and the small portion of his army that had not dispersed, to the woods and strong posts of Somersetshire.\* In that situation he remained during several months, occasionally sallying out upon the enemy, destroying their magazines, and carrying off their provisions. At length having again mustered a considerable army, he abandoned the fastnesses; and, rapidly advancing to "Æthandune,"† where the Danish forces lay encamped, attacked them before they were aware of his approach, and gained a complete victory. The slaughter of the Danes was prodigious: only a very small part of them being able to effect their escape; and even these fell into the power of the victorious monarch; for having fled to a neighbouring castle, or encampment, they were closely besieged, and compelled to submit to the mercy of the conqueror.‡ Alfred, naturally of a lenient disposition, granted them the most liberal terms, giving up to Guthrum, their king, all the territories of East-Anglia and Northumbria, to be held tributary upon the easy conditions of his evacuating all the West Saxon dominions, and receiving baptism along with the principal chiefs of his army.||

From this period to the reign of Edward the Martyr, no public event occurs in Wiltshire which seems to demand particular notice. In 976, however, we find mention made of a synod held at

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*Calne,*

\* The generally received belief that Alfred concealed himself, *alone*, in the Isle of Athelney, is not only an improbable story in itself, but is positively contradicted by the testimony of Asser, and the Saxon Chronicle. The story of the king taking shelter in disguise, at this period, in the cottage of a neat-herd, is also most likely altogether unfounded. Whitaker regards the whole as an interpolation in the manuscript of Asser, and certainly with great shew of probability. Asser. ubi supra. Whitaker's Life of St. Neot, p. 217—267.

† The precise situation of this place is much disputed among antiquaries, but is generally supposed to be at Eddington in this county, we shall have an opportunity of investigating the subject at large in our account of that place.

‡ Asser. De Gest. Ælfredi, ex Angl. Script. Camden, p. 10.

|| Spelman's Life of Alfred, p. 66.

*Canne*, in which the respective rights of the regular and secular Clergy underwent a most solemn discussion. This synod was attended not only by a vast number of the parties more immediately interested, but likewise by many of the principal nobility. Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, presided; and it is asserted by some historians that, fearing the issue of the contest would prove unfavourable to his own views, he had recourse to a most diabolical stratagem to prevent such a result. He procured all the beams of the hall, in which the assembly met, to be cut nearly asunder, except the one which supported his own seat; so that when Bernhelm, a Scotch Bishop, was speaking with great eloquence on the side of the Canons, the floor gave way, and many of them were either killed or wounded \*. Langard endeavours to controvert this story, observing that "the atrocity of the deed, the silence of his contemporaries, and the impolicy of involving in the same fate his friends, as well as his adversaries, must provoke a doubt in favour of the primate!" Besides, he adds, "no evidence of his guilt has, or can be produced, the ancient historians attributing the fall either to accident, or the interposition of Heaven." † But be this as it may, the event had not the desired effect. The secular clergy would not desist from their pretensions, nor allow that a misfortune was the sign of a bad cause. They had therefore another council convened the same year at *Amesbury*: the particulars of which are not related any further, than that the Canons were once more unsuccessful. ‡

The next historical occurrence of importance, immediately connected with Wiltshire, took place in the year 1003, when we are informed that Swen, or Sueno, king of Denmark, landed in the vicinity of Exeter, and advancing into the interior, laid waste this county to revenge the barbarous massacre of the Danes, by King Ethelred, on the ninth of July in the previous year §. At this time the towns of *Wilton* and *Sarum* were plundered

\* Turn. Hist. Angl. Sax. Vol. I. p. 405—406.

† "Antiquities of the Anglo-Saxon Church," p. 431 Edit. 1810.

‡ Warner's Ecclesiastical History, Vol. I. p. 211.

§ See Beauties of England, Vol. IV. p. 51.

dered and nearly burnt to the ground; and the Danish monarch returned home loaded with a greater booty than any of his predecessors had acquired.

In the year 1006 another army of Danes visited Wessex; and, having ravaged the counties of Hants and Berks, was returning to the coast, through Wiltshire, when the men of that county attacked it in the vicinity of *Kennet*. The Saxons, however, were totally defeated, and obliged to purchase peace, by submitting to the tribute called *Danegelt*.

England now enjoyed repose for the short period of five years; but in 1011 King Swein, and his son, Canute, once more landed on the south coast, and, marching through the counties of Wilts, Somerset, and Dorset, imposed very heavy contributions upon the inhabitants. King Edward at this time lay sick at *Corsham*, but his son, Edmund, took the field with all possible dispatch, and soon obliged the invaders to fly to their ships. Their decided naval superiority, now, gave them great advantages; for, sailing immediately to the eastward, Canute entered the Thames, and being there joined by considerable reinforcements, he advanced into the country, and reached *Criklade* without any opposition. Edmund, who had lately succeeded to the throne in consequence of the death of Edward, now marched to meet the Danish monarch; and having encountered his army at *Pen*, in Dorsetshire, forced him to seek refuge in the strong fortress of Winchester. Having soon, however, received additional reinforcements, he quitted his strong-hold, detached a part of his troops to besiege *Sarum*, and moved forward with the remainder to "Scearstan," or *Sherston*, on the north-western verge of the county, where a most obstinate battle ensued. This engagement lasted two days with doubtful success; but on the morning of the third day, when Edmund was preparing to renew the combat, he was surprised to find that Canute had fled towards Essex; notwithstanding victory had inclined in his favour on the preceding evening.\*



Concerning the local government of this county during the Saxon era, from the time of the submission of the several kingdoms of the heptarchy to the superior rule of one monarch, little mention is made by any of the ancient writers. Like the other counties of England it was, no doubt, governed by officary nobles, and of these, two are noticed in the *Magna Britannia*. One of them named Wickstan, Werstan, or Wæolhestanus, "*Dux Wiltoniensis*," in the latter part of the reign of Egbert, happening to have a quarrel with Æthelmund, a Mercian nobleman, each of them armed his followers, and fought a severe battle at *Kinnersford*, in which the Wiltshire men were victorious, though both the leaders were slain. The other governor, named Æthelhelm, appears to have been sent on an embassy to Rome, but the purport of his mission is not stated. This nobleman afterwards fell in an action with a party of Danes at Port, or Portsmouth, in Hampshire \*

Subsequent to the Norman conquest Wiltshire still retained a considerable share of political interest. In the year 1086, the Conqueror held a great council at *Salum*, "where all the principal landholders submitted their lands to the yoke of military tenure, became the king's vassals, and did homage and fealty to his person †." Thus was the feudal system formally introduced into this country, drawing after it a "numerous and oppressive train of servile fruits and appendages; aids, reliefs, primer-seisins, wardships, marriages, escheats, and fines for alienation, the genuine consequences of the maxim then adopted, that all the lands in England were derived from, and holden mediately, or immediately, of the crown." ‡ Several convocations were likewise held here, by King William's successors on matters of vital importance

\* Florentius Wigorniensis, *Flores Historiarum*, Matth. Westmon. p. 577. Frankfort Edit. 1661.

† Blackstone's "*Commentaries on the Laws of England*," Vol. II. p. 50. Dublin Edit. 1794.

‡ Ibid. Vol. IV. p. 418.

portance to the nation, some of which shall be noticed hereafter.

During the disputes between King Stephen and the Empress Matilda, or Maud, concerning the right of succession to the kingdom, Wiltshire was particularly distinguished. Roger, Bishop of Sarum, was the principal instrument in the elevation of the former to his usurped dignity;\* but having afterwards excited suspicion, on account of vindicating, with too great warmth, the interests of the church, he was ungratefully arrested, and deprived of his castle of Sarum, by the same prince for whom he had violated his oath of allegiance to the Empress, the rightful heiress of the English throne.

Clarendon, in this county, is remarkable for the laws passed there in the reign of Henry II. "whereby the king checked the power of the Pope and the clergy, and greatly narrowed the total exemption they claimed from the secular jurisdiction;"† though the completion of his wishes was unhappily prevented by the injudicious murder of that proud and arrogant prelate, Archbishop Becket. These laws are still familiar to the legal antiquary, by the appellation of the *Constitutions of Clarendon*. At Marlborough, in 1267, Henry the third held a Parliament, or a general assembly of the "Estates of England," to provide for "the better state of the realm, and the more speedy administration of justice;" and here were consequently enacted those statutes for the suppression of tumults, which have ever since been denominated "*The Statutes of Marlbridge*."

During the contests between the houses of York and Lancaster, that continued so long to deluge England with blood, the inhabitants of Wiltshire were conspicuous for their attachment to the fortunes of the Henries. A great number of them were present at the battle of Tewksbury, and bore the brunt of that fatal day,

\* Hume's History of England, Vol. I. p. 473.

† Blackstone's Commentaries, Vol. IV. p. 442.

day, which so much contributed to confirm the diadem on the head of Edward. \*

In the no less deplorable events of the seventeenth century, this county was equally distinguished. Many actions between the parliamentary and royal forces were decided within its boundaries; particularly at *Malmsbury*, at *Ludgershall*, and at *Roundaway hill*, in the neighbourhood of Devizes. *Wardour-Castle* and that of *Devizes* were besieged and taken by both parties, within one year. *Warminster* and several other towns of inferior note likewise stood sieges, and were taken and retaken at different periods of this unfortunate era. Accounts of these events will be found in the descriptions of the respective places at which they occurred.

Since the Restoration no transaction of historical importance has happened peculiarly relating to Wiltshire, unless the circumstance of James II. being first thoroughly convinced of the desperate condition of his affairs, while his headquarters were established at Salisbury, may be considered as such. This conviction resulted from the rapid desertion of the greater portion of his officers and army, to join the standard of the Prince of Orange. Among the former was the celebrated Lord Churchill, subsequently created Duke of Marlborough, whose defection was soon afterwards followed by that of the Princess Anne, and her husband, Prince George of Denmark. Thus abandoned, the unhappy monarch had no alternative but to fly his kingdom, and seek refuge at the court of France †.

In the preceding narrative of historical occurrences we have endeavoured to display the manners and customs of the early inhabitants of this district, because it is conceived that a knowledge of those will tend materially to elucidate many of the ancient remains, which we shall have occasion to notice and describe in subsequent pages. \*

#### ECCLESIASTICAL

\* For an account of this battle, see *Beauties*, Vol. V. p. 689.

† *Hume's History of England*, Vol. IX. p. 485.

**ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.** That the Christian religion was known, and pretty generally received in England, under the Roman government, is an opinion which admits of very little doubt. The devastations, however, of the Saxons, who still continued to worship idols, soon banished the benignant influence of the Gospel from our island; and paganism once more asserted, for a time, her degrading dominion over the minds of men. After the establishment of the heptarchy the first individual who attempted the conversion of the kingdom of Wessex was Birinus \*. This person was consecrated a bishop by Asterius, Bishop of Genoa, and had left Italy at the instigation of Pope Honorius with the view of penetrating into the heart of Britain, and diffusing the light of revelation to the remotest boundary of the island. But having chanced to land in Wessex, and observing that its inhabitants were yet wholly devoted to the adoration of images, and altogether ignorant of the true attributes of Deity, he thought it unnecessary to proceed further, and accordingly commenced his spiritual labours here. His endeavours in the glorious cause of the Redeemer seem to have been rapidly crowned with success; for, in a very short period after his arrival, we find it recorded that King Cynigels, or Kinegislus, as well as the greater part of his subjects, renounced their heathenish creed, and embraced the doctrines of Christianity †. Oswald, King of Northumberland, who had come hither in order to form a matrimonial alliance with the daughter of the West Saxon monarch, and had been previously converted, is said to have greatly contributed, by his influence, to this happy result ‡. It was so ordered, (says William of Malmesbury,) and the sight was certainly a praise-worthy one, that the baptism of the King should take place the same day on which he gave his daughter in marriage to the Northumbrian prince.

Hence

\* Godwin. De Præsulibus, p. 207.

† Warner's Ecclesiastical History, Vol. I. p. 75. Folio, 1759.

‡ Bede, B. III. C. 7. Chron. Saxon. Chron. Ethelwerd. Savile Script. Rer. Angl. p. 856.

Hence Oswald became in one hour both the spiritual father and the carnal son-in-law of Cynigels." \*

These ceremonies being concluded, it now became proper to form a regular establishment for the support and further propagation of the new religion. Accordingly the two kings co-operated to erect a cathedral church at *Dorchester*, in Oxfordshire, and Birinus was installed bishop, with spiritual jurisdiction over the whole of Wessex; also of some districts within the boundaries of Mercia †. Notwithstanding these exertions, however, Christianity made very little progress in this kingdom for several years. The tumults and distractions attendant on war but ill accord with the mild precepts of the Gospel. The most obvious truths can only be inculcated by very slow degrees, when the mind has been long warped by prejudice, and debased to the lowest ebb of superstitious ignorance. To comprehend the attributes of Deity; to conceive the existence of a Being, who, without any local habitation or physical constitution, should yet live, and direct all the mighty operations of nature, is an elevation of thought which it requires leisure and steady reflection to attain. No wonder then, if amidst the horrors of invasion, Birinus found it impossible to go on in the accomplishment of his pious mission; and was forced at length to abandon his church, and seek shelter in East Anglia, along with Cenwalph, whose licentious conduct deprived him of his kingdom during a period of three years, when the death of Penda enabled him to regain it. In the school of adversity this prince had learned wisdom, and being now fully sensible of his errors, resolved to atone for them by the moderation and sanctity of his future conduct. Accordingly, to evince the sincerity of this resolution he immediately finished the cathedral church at Winchester, which had

\* Wil. Malm. De Gest. Pontif. 241. Savile Rec. Script. Edit. Franc. Chronics. Ethelwerdi. Anno. 635—639.

† It may here be proper to remark that Cynigels, though an independent monarch, paid tribute to Oswald for some portion of his territories. Warner's Ecclesiastical History of England, Vol. I. p. 74.

had been begun by his father; and, having annexed to it entire jurisdiction over all his dominions, assigned it to Birinus in lieu of the See of Dorchester, incorporated with the kingdom of Mercia.

At this period (A. D. 646) the Diocese of Winchester was probably the most extensive in England, comprehending no fewer than eight counties, viz. Hampshire, Somersetshire, Wiltshire, Devonshire, Huntingdonshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire, and Cornwall \*. King Ina, regarding this bishopric as too large to be under the spiritual jurisdiction of one prelate, wisely divided it into two, on the death of Edda. That of Winchester, which still retained two counties, he gave to Daniel; and the other which was fixed at Sherborne, and comprised all the remaining counties, he conferred on Aldhelm, one of the most learned and eminent ecclesiastics of his age †. Wiltshire was of course included in the diocese of the latter, which continued, without any alteration, in its extent or government, during a succession of thirteen bishops. The last of these was Ethelwald, at whose death the country was so disturbed by the inroads of the Danes, that this among other bishoprics, remained vacant for the space of seven years. These circumstances, as might naturally be supposed, produced great confusion in the church; so that upon peace being restored in the year 905, Plegmund, Archbishop of Canterbury, perceived it necessary to exert himself with great energy to re-establish the ecclesiastical government under regulations better adapted to their object than had hitherto subsisted. With this view he consecrated seven additional bishops, and formed three of their dioceses out of the Bishopric of Sherborne. A fourth was soon afterwards established, which was confined to this county; but the seat of the bishops was not permanently fixed, for it

\* The *Magna Britannia* mentions Lincolnshire among the counties belonging to the see of Winchester at the period above alluded to; but this must certainly be a mistake, probably for Berkshire, which is omitted in the same work. *Magna Britannia*. Wilts. p. 166.

† See *Beauties*, Vol. IV. p. 488.

it is stated by different historians to have been successively at Ramsbury, at Wilton, and at Sunning\*, in Berkshire. This appears from the following short notices of the BISHOPS OF WILTSHIRE inserted in the *Magna Britannia*; and seemingly extracted from the work of "Godwinus de Præsulibus:"

1. *Ethelstan*, who had his seat and Cathedral at Ramsbury.
2. *Odo*, surnamed *Severus*, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury, who fixed his residence at the same place †.
3. *Osulphus*. This prelate removed his seat to Wilton, where he died in the year 970.
4. *Alstanus*, or *Alestanus*, Abbot of the monastery of Abingdon, who died in the year 981, and was buried in his abbey.
5. *Algarus*, or *Wolfgarus*.
6. *Siricius*, translated to Canterbury in 989 ‡.
7. *Alfricus*, or *Aluricus*, who succeeded to the see of Canterbury upon the death of Siricius §.
8. *Brithwoldus*. This prelate, according to the Saxon annals, was a monk of Glastonbury, and a munificent benefactor to the Abbey of Malmesbury. The same authority makes him Bishop of Winchester, and fixes the period of his death in 1015. William of Malmesbury describes him to have been Bishop of this diocese, and says he died in 1045.
9. *Livingus*, or *Livington*.
10. *Æthelwinus*. The two last mentioned prelates are omitted by Bishop Godwin in his Commentary on English bishops. They are noticed in Dr. Heylin's Catalogue, (p. 106.) but the authority for the insertion is not stated. ¶

#### 11. *Hermannus*,

\* Bishop Tanner thinks that the mention of this place as one of the seats of the Bishops of Wiltshire is erroneous; and we strongly incline to agree with him in that opinion. William of Malmesbury does not notice Sunning, but only Ramsbury, as the seat of this See; neither does Godwin, though in a note he remarks that Sunning was likewise used by Leland to have been an episcopal seat. Tanner's *Notitia Wilts.*—Wil. Malm. *De Gest. Pont.* in script. Angl. Savile. 248. Leland's *Itinerary*, Vol. IX. p. 91.

† See Beuties, Kent, Vol. VIII. p. 771.

‡ Ib. 775.

§ Ib.

11. *Hermannus*, the last bishop of this diocese, was a Fleming by birth, and had for some time been private chaplain to King Edward the Confessor. From motives of ambition, and an anxiety to render his See more prominent, he exerted all his influence to have it removed from Wilton, which was then rapidly falling to decay, to Malmesbury \*. For this object he solicited and obtained the support of the king, but was so strenuously opposed by the monks of the monastery there, aided by Earl Godwin, that he was unable to succeed. Mortified at this event, he abandoned his bishopric, and went over to France, where he assumed the monastic habit. Accustomed, however, as he had been, to the luxury of a court, and to that obsequious treatment which is one of the many privileges of an exalted station, he soon became disgusted with the severities of the convent, and the familiar intercourse which a sense of equality engenders. No sooner, therefore, did he receive intelligence of the death of Godwin, than he quitted his retirement and returned to England. Just about this time *Elfwoldus*, Bishop of Sherborne, died, and Herman prevailed on the king to reunite that see with the diocese of Wiltshire.

Shortly after this event, William the Conqueror invaded England; and, having established himself on the throne, directed much of his attention to ecclesiastical matters. He ordered a synod to be held at St. Paul's, in London, in 1076, and proposed that the episcopal seats should be removed from obscure villages, (in which many of them were placed,) to towns of some importance. This proposal was readily agreed to, and Herman embraced the opportunity of fixing his seat at old Sarum, where he founded a cathedral church, which was afterwards finished by his successor Osmund †.

From that period till the prelacy of Richard, surnamed Poore, who succeeded to the see of Salisbury, in 1217, no changes took place in this bishopric of particular importance.

During

\* Such is the statement in the "*Antiquitates Sarisburienses*," but it is very doubtful, at least with respect to Wilton.

† *Malmesb. de Pontif. L. II. p. 142.*



During his\* time, however, the episcopal scat was removed to New Sarum, or Salisbury, its present situation. For that change various reasons have been assigned, which will be stated in a subsequent part of our work, where the reader may likewise find a few farther historical details of the diocese, and biographical notices of its bishops.

As bearing an intimate connection at least, with the subject of ecclesiastical history, we shall here insert a list of the monastic institutions, religious houses, &c. of this county, chiefly extracted from the Notitia of Bishop Tanner :

*A List of the Monasteries, &c. in Wiltshire.*

<i>Names of Places.</i>	<i>Orders.</i>	<i>Founded.</i>	<i>Granted to</i>
AMESBURY	Bened. N.	refounded 980	Earl of Hertford, 1540.
Ansty .	Hospital	temp. Hen. VIII.	John Zouch.
Avebury	Al. P. Ben. M.	temp. Hen. I.	Sir William Zaring- ton, & Edw. VI. }
Bradanford, or	—————	founded 705	Given to Nunnery at Shaftesbury, 1001. }
BRADFORD	Hospital	—————	—————
Bradenstoke, or Clack	{ P. Aust. Can.	founded 1142	Rich. Poxell.
Bradley, or May- den Bradley	{ P. Aust. Can.	temp. K. Stephen	E. Seymour, Visc. Beauchamp. }
Brioptone	B. Can. A.	—————	—————
Bromham	P. Can. Reg.	Bald. de Riperius	—————
CALNE	Hosp. St. John	temp. Hen. III.	—————
Chaileton	Al P. ....	founded 1187	Sir W. Harrington, & Ed. VI. }
Chissenbury	P. ....	—————	—————
Clatford	Al. P. ....	temp. W. Cong.	E Duke of Somer- set, & Ed. IV. }
CORSHAM	Al P. Ben. M.	—————	Philip Moore, & James I. }
CRICKLADE	Hospital .....	ante Hen. III.	A free chapel.
DEVIZES	Hospital .....	ante 1207	—————
Edindon	Bonhommes	refounded 1378	Sir Thos. Seymour, & Hen VIII. to W. Lord St. John, & Edw. VI. }
Eaton	Trin. Friars	temp. Hen. III.	E. Seymour, Visc. Beauchamp, & Hen. VIII. }
Farlega, or Monk- ton Farley	{ Clun. P. ....	antè 1125.	Ditto.

*Names*

<i>Names of Places.</i>	<i>Orders.</i>	<i>Founded.</i>	<i>Granted to</i>
HAYESBURY	College	ante 1300	_____
_____	Hospital	A. D. 1470	_____
Ivy-Church	Aust. Can.	temp. Hen. II.	John Barwick.
Kington	Ben. Nun.	ante Hen. II.	Sir Richard Long.
Kingswood	Cist. Nun.	A. D. 1139	Sir John Thynne, } 2 Elizabeth
Laycock	Aust. Nun.	A. D. 1232	Sir W. Sharrington.
_____	Carth. M.	A. D. 1232	Sir W. Sharrington.
Longleat	Aust. B. Can.	temp. Hen. VIII.	Sir John Thynne.
MALMESBURY	Brit. Nun	ante 603	William Stumpe.
_____	Ben. Abbey	ante 670	William Stumpe.
_____	St. John's Hosp.	_____	_____
MARLBURGH, or } Mailborough	Gilbert. P	temp. K. John	Anth. Stringer.
_____	St. John's Hosp.	Ditto	_____
_____	St. Thos. Hosp.	temp. Hen. III.	Ann. Pr. of St. Marg.
_____	White Friars	A. D. 1316.	Jn. Pye, R. Brown.
Merton	Hospital.	temp. Hen. III.	34 Hen. VIII.
Okeburn, or Ogburn	Ab. Ben. M. Bec Herlowyn in Normandy	A. D. 1149.	Charter-house, Lond.
Pulton	Gil. Prioxy	temp. Ed. III.	T. Stroude, Walt } Erle, John Paget }
Ramsbury	_____	A. D. 905	United to Shee- } boerne 1060. }
Sarum, Old	Virgin Mary	ante temp. Inez	_____
_____	St James	Ditto	_____
_____	St. John	ante temp. Ed. Con.	_____
SALISBURY	Cathedral	A. D. 1258.	Dean and Chapter.
_____	St. Edmund's Col.	A. D. 1270.	Wm. St. Barbe.
_____	College de Vaux	A. D. 1260.	Sir Mic. Lister.
_____	Vicar's College	temp. Hen. VIII.	_____
_____	Harnham Hosp.	A. D. 1220.	_____
_____	St. John's Hosp.	ante 1 H. VIII.	_____
_____	Trin. Hospital	temp Rich II.	_____
_____	Black Friars	temp. Edw. I.	John Pollard and } William Byrte. }
_____	Grey Friars	temp. Hen. III.	John Wroth.
Stanlegh	Cisterians	temp. II.	Sir Edw. Baynton.
Stratton St. Margarts.	Al. Prioxy	temp. Hen VI.	King's Col. Cam.
Temple Rockley	Kn. Templ.	temp. Hen II.	Sm. Edw Baynton.
Tisselbury	Monastery	ante 720.	Abb. Shattebury.
TROWBRIDGE	Alms House	_____	_____

<i>Names of Places.</i>	<i>Orders.</i>	<i>Founded.</i>	<i>Granted to</i>
Uphaven	Ben. Cell Al. Pr. to Abb. St. Wandra- gasein in dio- cese at Roan	temp. Hen I.	Fr. and Wm. Anderson, 4 James I.
WILTON	Ben. Nun.	founded A. D. 800; and a- gain in 871	Sir William Herbert
_____	College	_____	_____
_____	St. John's Hosp	A. D. 1217	_____
_____	St Giles Hosp.	temp. Hen. I.	_____
_____	St Mary Mag Hospital	} _____	_____
_____	Bl. Friars	temp. Edw. VI.	Sir William Herbert
_____	Hospital	_____	Bradenstoke

**ANTIQUITIES.**—On reviewing the topographical Antiquities of England in the aggregate, and again subdividing them into their respective districts, we shall find that Wiltshire has pre-eminent claims to the notice and investigation of the antiquary; and this circumstance may be easily accounted for. In the original colonization of an island, the inhabitants would naturally choose the most open, dry, and cheerful position; and soon proceed to establish domestic habitations, and other objects adapted to their civil habits, and public customs. The part of England we are about to describe is a tract of this kind: indeed the open Downs, consisting of a dry chalk-substrata, still preserve their pristine features, and are of the particular climate and quality which would first attract a new colony. The numerous ancient remains scattered over that district are strongly calculated to excite and confirm this opinion; for within the area of Wiltshire we are presented with monuments of the art and science of almost every age and people, that have come under the cognizance of the English historian and antiquary. Some of these are of such remote origin, that it is impracticable to ascertain their respective eras of formation, and primitive uses. In the present part of our work, we shall briefly notice their names and order,

for

for the purpose of furnishing the reader with a general and familiar acquaintance with their external characteristics. To effect this end it will be advisable to class them under heads, which may serve to designate their forms and peculiarities, rather than their respective eras of construction. Discussions on this point, as well as specific descriptions, will be found in subsequent pages, where the objects occur in topographical arrangement.

The remains of antiquity in Wiltshire, first entitled to notice, in a collective view, are the stupendous monuments at *Avebury*, and *Stonehenge*, both of which are commonly regarded as Druidical temples. In these structures we are presented with the most wonderful works of a rude, but powerful, people: works in which the bodily strength of associated numbers, with the science and customs of their age, are strongly manifested; and which are calculated not only to excite the astounded gaze and amazement of the multitude, but also to rouse curiosity, and awaken enquiry in the minds of antiquaries and historians.

Next to these immense temples, because resembling them in relative magnitude, though totally dissimilar in kind, the *Wansdyke* may properly claim attention. This vast earth-work, which is supposed to have originally intersected the whole county, is now only distinctly visible in detached places, except throughout the range of hills to the south and west of Marlborough, where it still remains tolerably entire, and in one place is seen in a bold and connected line for the space of ten or twelve miles. The construction of this work, as already mentioned, is referred by some authors to the Aboriginal inhabitants of the island, and by others to the Belgæ, whilst a third class of writers ascribe it to the West Saxons.

**BARROWS, or TUMULI**—Of nearly equal antiquity to the monuments already named, are the artificial hillocks, or mounds of earth, which abound in this county, and which appear to have an intimate connection with those temples, as they are more numerous around Stonehenge and Avebury, than in any other places. These memorials were undoubtedly appropriated to sepulchral purposes.

purposes. By the researches of Mr. Cunningham, Sir Richard C. Hoare,\* the Rev. James Douglas,† and a few other enlightened antiquaries, we are made familiar with the contents of these sacred depositories, and in the course of our subsequent pages we shall have occasion to give an account of some of the more remarkable ones, among which *Silbury-Hill* will demand particular attention..

The ROMAN STATIONS mentioned in the Itinerary of Antoninus, as being situated within the county, are three in number: *Sorbiodunum*, *Verlucio*, and *Cunetio*. The first of these is placed by all antiquaries at Old Sarum; but the situation of the other two has been much disputed. Camden fixes *Verlucio* at Westbury; Horsley at Lackham; and Stukeley, whose opinion is the most probable, in the neighbourhood of Heddington. *Cunetio* was formerly supposed by some writers to be at the village of Kennet, and by others at the present town of Marlborough; but it is now generally allowed to have been situated at a short distance east from the latter place, near the north-eastern boundary of Savernake Forest. Besides these the Romans had several other settlements in this county: particularly at Easton-Grey; at Wanborough, near Heytesbury; and at Littlecot.

Of the Roman Roads which passed through Wiltshire, the principal was a continuation of the *Julia-Strata*. This road entering the county from Bath (*Aquæ Solis*) near Bathford, ran north-easterly by Medley and Spy-park to *Verlucio*, (near Heddington, (and thence by Colston and Kennet to *Cunetio*, in its way to *Spinae*, (or Spene). The *Fosse-Road* struck off from the *Julia-Strata* at Bathford, and continued by Banner-Down, Easton-Grey, across the turnpike-road between Tetbury and Malmsbury, to Cirencester, (*Corinium*; or *Durocornovium*.) Another great road proceeded from this station in a south-east direction by Cricklade to Wanborough, where it separated into two branches, the one continuing by Baydon to Spene, and the other

\* "Ancient Wiltshire," folio, and *Archæologia*, Vol. XV.

† "Nennia Britannia," folio.

other by Ogburne, Mildenhall, Tottenham, and Marton, through Chute-park to Winchester. Several other roads connected *Sorbiodunum* with neighbouring stations, and of these three are traced with considerable certainty: 1st. one which led to *Durnovaria*, or Dorchester, and passed by Bemerton Church, Tony-Stratford, Woodyates-Inn, and Bradbury, in Dorsetshire.—2dly. That to *Venta-Belgarum*, Winchester, by Ford and Winterslow Mill, Buccold Farm, and Bossington. And, 3dly. Another to *Vindonum*, or Silchester, which run north-easterly by Porton and Idmiston, and quitted this county near Benson's Folly: A fourth, in all probability, led northerly to the station of *Cunetio*; a fifth, south-westerly towards *Isca*, or Ilchester; and a sixth to *Aquæ-Solis*, or Bath, by Bishops-Trow, and Yarnbury, Scratchbury, and Battlesbury Castles. The RIDGEWAY is also mentioned by Whitaker as a Roman road, but his opinion is most certainly erroneous, as this work is totally different in character from any road of that people known in England. Its situation, indeed, evidently points it out to be of British origin. It is distinctly visible on the high ridge which extends from Avebury, in a north-easterly direction, to Berkshire, and in some places across that county towards Dorchester, in Oxfordshire.

The numerous ENCAMPMENTS, and other intrenched earthen-works with which Wiltshire abounds, vary much not only in size and shape, but in method of construction and peculiarity of situation. Some of these are doubtless the works of the Britons, others of the Belgæ, of the Romans, of the Saxons, the Danes, and the Normans; many of them, however, have been, in all probability, successively occupied and altered by the armies of one or more of these nations, at different periods, subsequent to their original formation. The immense fortifications of Old Sarum, Chisbury-hill, and Vespasian's camp, near Amesbury, constitute the most noted monuments, in this class of antiquities, which we shall have occasion to notice in our description of the county. Many others are perhaps of equal extent, and scarcely less interesting: but, dropping for the present all further distinctions, we

shall only remark that ENCAMPMENTS\* are discovered at, or near, each of the following places: on Whitesheet-Hill, Clay-Hill, Warminster-Down, Whiten-Hill, Cotley-Hill, Knighton-Down, Pewsey-Heath, Oldbury-Hill near Calne, Roundway-Hill near Devizes, Martinsall-Hill near Marlborough, Chidbury-Hill near Ludgershall, Bluusden-Hill near Highworth, Beacon-Hill, Southley-Wood, Roddenbury, Hays, Bratton, Battlesbury, Scratchbury, Knook, Yarnbury, Bilbury, Hanging-Langford, Grovely, East-Castle, Rolston, Casterley, Chilbury, Haydon, Godbury, Ledbury, Ogbury, Newton-Toney, Alderbury, Whichbury, Clearbury, Winkelbury, Broad-Chalke, Chiselbury, Woodyates-Inn, Spelbury near Fovant, Denton, and Little Path-Hill. These entrenchments are generally supposed to have been thrown up for military purposes; but there are a variety of other earthen works spread over Salisbury Plain and Marlborough Downs, the precise intention of which is extremely doubtful. Some of them are considered by Sir Richard Hoare as the sites of British villages; and others as denoting places consecrated to religion.

**CASTLES.**—That this county, at an early period, contained a number of those baronial fortified structures, which are usually designated by the term castles, and which are supposed by several writers to have been first introduced by the Normans, is undoubted. Most of them, however, are now totally demolished, so that it is even difficult to ascertain their actual sites; and the rest have been so much altered, in later times, as almost to efface every vestige of the original building. The more celebrated of these edifices, and those which most frequently occur in the  
ancient

\* The terms Camp, Castle, and Encampment, are often indiscriminately applied to the same object: and hence, without description, we are generally at a loss to understand the nature and character of the place. In order to obviate a similar error, we shall always apply the word *Castle* to a fortified building; *Encampment* to an area inclosed by valla and fossa, with its connected outwork; and *Camp*, to the army stationed within the same circumfences.

ancient historians, are the Castles of Marlborough, Devizes, Ludgershall, Wardour, Combe, and Malmesbury. Old Sarum, though often called the "*Castle of Old Sarum*," does not belong to the class now under consideration; for it was originally a fortified town, or station, with a fortress in the centre. Several earth-works, or castrametations, in the county, are popularly, but very inaccurately, designated by the name of castle.

Besides these, many lesser vestiges of antiquity have been discovered in Wiltshire at different periods; such as tessellated pavements, coins, urns, fragments of sculpture, daggers, shields, gold and silver ornaments, and a vast variety of other articles of British, Roman, Saxon, Norman, and English manufacture; but it will be unnecessary to specify them here, as the principal of them will be noticed in describing the places where they were found.

**GENERAL ASPECT.**---In a geographical arrangement, Wiltshire may be said to be naturally divided into two portions by an irregular range of hills, which extends transversely through the greater part of the county, in a direction inclining from the north-east to the south-west. These districts are usually denominated South and North Wiltshire, and differ very materially from each other, not only in appearance, but in almost every distinguishing quality.

*South Wiltshire*, which claims priority of notice, on account of its superior extent, forms the western division of a vast tract of chalk-hills, comprising a considerable part of Hampshire, and having for its boundaries the rich lands of Berkshire, and the extreme verge of the Marlborough hills on the north; the broken ground of Somersetshire on the west; the New Forest of Hampshire on the south; and the heaths of Surrey and Sussex, together with the West Downs of the latter county, on the east. This portion of Wiltshire presents to the eye, when surveyed from a distance, the appearance of a large elevated plain: on a nearer inspection, however, it offers a somewhat different aspect. The spectator now perceives it to be indented by numerous, and frequently extensive, vallies, and to display an almost continual



series of gentle eminences, with now and then a bolder height rising above the others, but never to a mountainous elevation. The surface of the higher grounds, (or as they are provincially termed, Downs,) to use the words of Gilpin, is "spread out like the ocean; but it is like the ocean after a storm; it is continually heaving in large swells."\* In some parts the hills assume the form of rotund knolls, and are separated by smoothly sided hollows, which vary considerably both in depth and extent. At other times they range along for a short distance in connected ridges, shewing, on one side of the range, rather a rapid declivity, from the top of which, on the other side, the hills sink in irregular gradation, till at length they frequently shelve into a perfect flat. This effect, says Marshall,† in his observations, on what he terms the western district of chalk hills, is of course more particularly distinguishable "where the range of hills is narrow, *single*, than where a congeries of such ranges are crowded together disorderly." The whole of this district, generally speaking, is separated into two divisions, the one called *Marlborough-Downs*, and the other *Salisbury-Downs*, or *Plain*. Both these portions, however, are characterized by precisely the same generic features, excepting, perhaps, that the eminences in the former are more abrupt and elevated than in the latter. Around Stonehenge the greatest level prevails, and the face of the country here flows in the most gentle manner, and exhibits a tamer aspect than even the high wolds of Yorkshire. Throughout this whole extent the views are usually smooth and naked, but nevertheless beautiful: and, though destitute of the picturesque, are excellent subjects of study for the landscape painter, because affording some masterly outlines which the imagination can easily fill up. Many of the scenes are grand: and at particular seasons, or under the influence of peculiar effects of sky, cannot fail to delight the artist. The principal vallies in this division of the county lie along the banks of the rivers, the most remarkable

\* "Observations on the Western Parts of England," p. 83. 8vo. 1808.

† Rural Economy of the Southern Counties, Vol. II. p. 296—301.

remarkable of which diverge like irregular radii from the country around Salisbury and Wilton. These display rich meadow and corn lands, interspersed with seats and villages, and finely covered, at intervals, with plantations of wood.

*North Wiltshire*, as already hinted, differs completely from the southern division of the county in its general appearance. Instead of a constant series of "chalky waves," the aspect of this district, which extends from the verge of the Downs to the hills of Gloucestershire, is nearly that of a perfect flat, the few deviations from the ordinary level, being, for the most part, so gradual, as scarcely to be perceptible on a cursory view. The country here, moreover, is so extremely close, and well wooded, that when viewed from any of the surrounding hills, it appears like one vast plantation of trees. If examined in detail, however, it is found also to contain many extensive tracts of rich pasture land, situated on the banks of the Lower Avon and the Thames, and of such smaller streams as flow into the one or the other of these rivers. It likewise comprises a number of corn-fields, exhibits some very fine scenery of the milder kind, and is abundantly supplied with towns and villages.

**MINERALOGY AND MINERAL PRODUCTIONS.**---A view of the interior structure and component strata of the county may not improperly follow the general description of its external aspect; more especially as Wiltshire affords few materials connected with this subject, on which it will be necessary to enlarge. Chalk undoubtedly forms the chief part of the substructure of all that extensive assemblage of hills which constitute the Downs. This substance, in some places, is extremely hard; though it more usually is of a soft marly texture. Of these two opposite sorts, the former, when burnt, affords tolerable lime for the purposes of architecture, and the latter is sometimes used in its natural state as a manure for the clayey-soils in the vallisies. The chalk of Sudbury-hill is the finest in the county, and probably not inferior in whiteness to any in Europe. Considerable quantities of it are

consequently dug up here, and sold for the supply of the shops in the western counties. When analysed the calx is found to contain ninety-seven and a half grains of calcareous matter, and two and a half of tenacious residuum, “ a brown slime like matter.”\* The under strata, composing the lower grounds of this district, are clays, flint, and sandstone. The two first are likewise frequently interspersed with the chalk in different parts of the hills. Of the last there are several very singular veins running in various directions, both through South and North Wiltshire.† In the latter division of the county, however, the substructure is in other respects entirely opposite to that in the southern. Here the chief under stratum consists of a loose irregular mass of flat broken stones, which lie in horizontal beds, mixed with earth. These, in some places, are of a schistose description, and sufficiently thin to be used for covering houses; in others they are so thick, as to be calculated for pavements; and a third kind bears a strong affinity in shape and properties to free-stone: but in general they are discovered in detached fragments, well adapted for the construction of the dry wall-fences, so common in the neighbouring county of Gloucester. Under the sand-strata at Swindon is found a very singular rock, more regularly stratified than the “ Corne-grate,” and of a most excellent quality. This stone likewise serves with equal advantage all the purposes of the other sort. In the country between Highworth and Clack, by Wotton-Basset, “ is a hard close rock of a rough irregular kind of bastard limestone.” but it is of little or no use either as a cement or a manure, and is on that account seldom used except for the construction or repair of roads.‡ Neither coal, nor any of the metallic ores, are at present among the natural productions of Wiltshire. The author of the *Magna Britannia*, notwithstanding, supposes iron-stone to have been discovered and wrought here in ancient times, because “ about the fields of Heddlington, Bromham,

\* Marshall's “ *Economy of the Southern Counties.*” Vol. II. p. 307.

† Davies's *General View*, &c. p. 3.

‡ Ibid. p. 163,—166.

ham, Bowden, &c. are often ploughed up Cinders, which are the *scoria* of melted iron.”\*

On the western side of the county, bordering on Somersetshire, are many freestone quarries, where vast quantities of fine stone are obtained. The quarries at *Box*, near Bath, are as famous as any in the vicinity of that city. The stone at *Swindon* is in much request for paving, for cisterns, tombs, &c. In the quarries at this town is also found a great variety of fossilized sea-shells, and other marine exuvix. Some years back a large trunk of a petrified tree was dug up at this place, and a considerable piece of it sent to the Leverian Museum. Near *Wotton-Basset*, a peculiar species of fossil abounds in the blue clay of the substrata. In shape and external character it resembles a small fir-apple, and is of a very brittle quality. Among the freestone in the neighbourhood of *Grittleton*, is found another fossil-production of a very singular kind. It is a flinty substance, of a circular form, with the upper surface convex, and the under side concave. In this respect it bears some analogy to the basaltic columns: but it is of small dimensions.

**RIVERS.**---Wiltshire abounds with rivers, most of which either take their rise within the county, or on its immediate confines. Two of these, the Thames and the Lower-Avon, are unquestionably important streams. All the others are much inferior, both in extent and consequence; but several of them nevertheless deserve to be particularly noticed: viz. the Upper, or Salisbury Avon, the Nadder, the Willey, the Bourne, and the Kennet.

The origin, or fountain-head of the *Thames*, or, as it is sometimes called, the *Isis*,† has been no less differently assigned in the writings of topographers, than that of the Nile by both ancient

\* *Magna Britannia, Wilts*, p. 164.

† Some writers, considering the word “Thames” as compounded of the terms “Thame” and “Isis,” contend that the river ought not to be denominated the Thames till the junction of the Gloucestershire and Wiltshire branch of it with the “Thame” in Oxfordshire.

cient and modern travellers. While some insist that its proper source ought to be laid in Wiltshire, others maintain that Gloucestershire has the better right to the distinction. But not only is it disputed to which county the source of this river strictly belongs; it is also a matter of contention to what part of either it should properly be referred. Cricklade, Kemble, Swindon, and Highworth, have each their strenuous advocates among the favourers of Wiltshire; but we coincide in opinion with those who contend for Gloucestershire, and regard the *Thames-head* near the village of Cotes, in the hilly tract of the Coteswolds, as the real spring of this mighty king of the British rivers.\*

But though we thus admit that the Thames has its source in Gloucestershire, it may be observed that it is in Wiltshire it first becomes a river of importance, by the junction of the numerous streams which fall into it during its passage through that county. The chief of these are the Swill-Brook, the Key, and the Churn, all of them nearly as considerable as the Thames itself, before its confluence with the river first mentioned. The Churn indeed is considered by some authors as the actual current of the Thames.†

The *Lower-Avon* ‡, according to Skrine, rises in the hilly district of North Wiltshire, at a short distance from the town of Wotton-Basset§. This idea, however, is confessedly erroneous, for though its proper channel, like that of the Thames, has been sometimes disputed, it is now almost universally allowed to have its source from different springs on the immediate confines of this county and Gloucestershire. Emerging from the hills, the river proceeds in a curvilinear course eastwards, across the Fosse-road, till it reaches Malmesbury, where it forms a junction with

\* See accounts of this river in *Beauties of England and Wales*, Vol. I. p. 85; Vol. V. p. 512; and Vol. XII. p. 33.

† Skrine's *Account of Rivers*, p. 335.

‡ This river is supposed by some authors to be the *Antonia* of Tacitus; and the *Bladon* of William of Malmesbury. *Magna Britannia*. Wilts. p. 163.

§ *Ibid*, p. 233.

with several subsidiary streams. Flowing hence in a southern direction, it receives a number of additional rivers not far from Great Somerford; and continues by Dantzey and Chippenham, after which its windings are numerous, from the hilly nature of the country through which it passes, as it advances through the cloathing district, washing in its course the busy towns of Melksham and Bradford. It then sweeps boldly to the north-west, and enters Somersetshire on its way to Bath. This river is rendered remarkable in history, by the researches of those authors who maintain that it first formed the boundary between the Belgæ and Hedui; and afterwards, between the kingdoms of Wessex and Mercia. From the numerous vestiges of antiquity still discernible on its banks, there is no doubt but that they have been the scenes of many sanguinary conflicts in ancient times. Several of these are mentioned in the annals of our country; but the memory of others is lost, in all probability, for ever. As an object of natural investigation, the Avon is distinguished by a dark deep stream, and frequently flows with considerable rapidity. The country through which it passes is in many places very beautiful, and covered, at intervals, with a profusion of wood; but, except when it approaches Somersetshire it is extremely flat, and can boast of few picturesque prospects. Nearly at an equal distance between Chippenham and Melksham stand the noble remains of Laycock-Abbey, a venerable monument of ancient grandeur.

The *Upper-Avon*, or, as Skrine calls it, “The Wiltshire and Hampshire Avon,” is formed by the confluence of several smaller rivers, which take their rise among the hills, near the centre of the county. After their junction, the Avon flows southward through a fine valley, which crosses the Downs of South-Wiltshire, by Ambresbury, Old Sarum, and Salisbury, and enters Hampshire about a mile from the town of Downton. The current of this river, before it reaches Salisbury, is extremely winding; and its banks, both above and below that city, are adorned with charming seats and villages. They also offer many monuments of ancient art; and, like those of the river al-

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ready described, have witnessed many events memorable in the annals of history, from the influence they have exerted on the general interests of the kingdom. \*The principal rivers which flow into the Avon are the Willey, the Nadder, and the Bourne.

The *Willey* has its rise at the foot of the Clay-Hills; and, running in a eastern direction through Warminster, is joined by the rivulet called the *Deverill*\*, about a mile from that town, whence it flows along by Heytesbury and Wilton to Salisbury; and there discharges itself, by two channels, into the Avon. The vale in which the river runs partakes much of the character of that last mentioned, exhibiting in addition a constant series of islets, or small islands, some of which are of considerable extent. These islets are most numerous in the vicinity of Wilton, which is wholly enveloped by the various branches of the river. A short distance to the south-east of this town it is joined by

The *Nadder*, which takes its spring on the southern extremity of the county, not far from Shaftsbury, in Dorsetshire; and derives its name from its serpentine course; the word "Adder" being a corruption for "Nadder." This river, in its progress to Wilton, flows near Wardour-Castle, the village of Hache, and a variety of other places of less importance.

The *Bourne* rises among the hills in the vicinity of Easton, a village situated about five miles south-west from Great Bedwin. What is remarkable, this stream is only occasional, flowing generally from October to the close of spring, and ceasing during the summer and harvest months. In its course, after passing Tidworth, it runs through a portion of Hampshire; but enters this county again near Challerton, and proceeds by Newton-Toney, and

\* According to Camden, this stream derives its stream from the circumstance of its *during* under ground near Maiden-Bradley, through which it runs, and appearing again about a mile off. The truth of that statement, however, is denied by Bishop Gibson, and by the author of the *Magna Britannia*. Dr. Stukeley, on the other hand, supports the affirmation of Camden; and we have no doubt of his being correct.—Gough's *Camden*, Vol. I. p. 89. *Mag. Brit. Wills.* p. 163. *Beauties of Wiltshire*, Vol. I. p. 15.

and the three Winterbournes, to the south-east of Salisbury, where its current joins that of the Avon.

The *Kennet* has its origin close to the village of Uffot, in the vicinity of Barbury-Castle. It flows first to the north-west, and afterwards directly north, to West Kennet, at which place it sweeps completely to the east, and continues in a somewhat devious course, by the town of Marlborough, and the villages of Ramsbury and Chilton, to Hungerford, on the confines of Berkshire. This river, like the Willey, forms several islets; and its banks are distinguished by many traces of remote antiquity, among which the stupendous temple at Avebury is most particularly remarkable. The Kennet is noted for its "silver eels" and trout.

Besides the rivers already mentioned, several others have their sources within the confines of Wiltshire; but they are either of trivial extent, or leave the county so soon after their rise, as scarcely to entitle them to be ranked among the number of its streams. The principal of these are the *Stour*, and the *Brue*: the former issues from several fountains in the pleasure-grounds attached to the elegant seat of that celebrated antiquary Sir R. C. Hoare; and, flowing through Dorsetshire and Hampshire, mingles its waters with the Avon at Christ-Church, in the latter county. The *Brue* likewise rises on the western verge of Wiltshire, and flowing first to the south-west, and then to the north-west, through Somersetshire, empties itself into the Bristol-Channel at a short distance from the mouth of the river Parret, in the Bay of Bridgewater.

**SOIL AND CLIMATE.**—The soil of this county is various, both in the southern, and in the northern districts. In the former, however, a much greater uniformity of disposition is observable than in the latter. All the higher land, on the sides of the hills, from which the flints have been washed off, exhibits very commonly a chalky loam, or rather a dissolved chalk. A flinty loam chiefly forms the soil of the lower grounds of these summits;



and in the centre of the vallies, which are watered by rivulets, the soil is usually composed of a deep black earth, covering a bed of broken flints; but in some of the more extensive vales there are veins of peat, formed by the black earth without any mixture of flints. "Hence we may observe," says Mr Davis, "that the white land prevails most near the sources of the rivulets, where the hills are steepest, and the flinty loams near the junction of the rivulets, where the country is flattest." On those hills, the sides of which are much washed, the soil is of course extremely thin and weak; and, on the contrary, the level tops, which have been little, if at all washed, frequently possess a very strong and deep soil. Some stiff clays and clayey loams are discovered in different spots on the skirts of this district; and its interior is intersected by several stripes of a sandy soil, following the course of the veins of sand-stone already mentioned. One stripe, which is very narrow, but very fertile, entering the county in the vicinity of Mere, runs by Maiden-Bradley, Warmminster, Westbury, and Lavington, towards Devizes, where it meets and unites with a wider and still more fertile tract of similar soil, which stretches through the vale of Pewsey, and terminates at Burbage. From Shaftsbury, in Dorsetshire, another stripe proceeds by Donhead, Ansty, Shallowcliffe, and Fovant, till it is stopped by the high ground in Bulcomb field. This vein is likewise met at, or near Fovant, by the range of "sand hills coming from West Knoyle," by Stop-Beacon and Ridge.

In North Wiltshire, the soil, covering the extensive tracts of "Corn-Gate," under-strata, is chiefly a calcareous loam of a reddish colour, and contains a considerable mixture of irregular flat stones. This loam differs much in quality, according to its comparative distance from the rock, and to the absence, or presence, of an intervening layer of cold blue clay; which, particularly when situated near the surface, renders the soil much less fertile than when it lies upon the pure warm stone; as is the case with all the land extending from Chippenham southward through Melksham

sham and Trowbridge; except where the veins of gravel above mentioned interrupt the course of the rock. In that event, however, the soil is not deteriorated; but, on the contrary, is much improved. Of the sand veins in this district, one runs from Rodburn by Seagry, Draycot, and Sutton-Benger to Langley-Burrell, near Chippenham; and another from Charlcot, through Bremhill to Branham. Detached masses of the same soil are likewise seen at Rowde and Seend; and there is a third very narrow stripe of it stretching also from Charlcot towards Swindon. Another soil in North Wiltshire, which seems to demand particular notice, is that extending over the greater part of Bradon Forest: it is a cold iron clay of the very worst quality; so that the ground here "was never so well applied as when in its original state of wood-land." \*

The *Climate* of this county is not characterized by any very peculiar features except that the air in South Wiltshire, as on all open Downs, is generally cold and sharp. Hence that district, though highly favourable to the health both of men and beasts, is not very congenial to agricultural purposes. In North Wiltshire the climate is much milder than in the south parts, but is nevertheless likewise cold; at least winter lingers here longer than might be supposed, a consequence, most probably of the chilly retentive nature of the under-soil throughout the greater part of it.

**AGRICULTURE.**—To exhibit any thing like a complete view of the agriculture of the county, and to notice specifically its various products, would require a much ampler detail than the limits of a work like the present can properly allow. All we intend under this head is to lay before the reader a mere outline of the chief characteristic features which distinguish South and North Wiltshire, in that respect, no less than in external appearance, understructure, soil, and climate.

Generally speaking, the southern district may almost be regarded

\* Davis's General View of the Agriculture of Wiltshire, p. 2—154—166.

garded as one vast sheep farm; the greater part of its extensive downs, and many portions of the vales being devoted to the rearing and feeding of that useful animal. The summer stock of sheep kept in this division alone was formerly estimated at somewhat more than 500,000 head, including lambs, of which at least 150,000 were bred annually. About thirty years ago, however, this number had materially decreased, in consequence of the rage for improving the carcase, which led, in many instances, to very prejudicial results. Experience has at length happily corrected this error; and the farmers are now very generally satisfied that tender and delicate breeds cannot be reared with advantage, in tracts of country so situated as the downs. But the diminution of stock considered in itself was not the only evil this improving system occasioned; very serious injury likewise arose to the arable cultivation, as the produce of the fold constitutes the chief, or rather the only manure which can be applied to the corn lands, bordering the downs, on account of the steepness of the hills rendering it almost impracticable to effect that object by the usual means, even although abundance of other manures could be procured. The improved breeds did not merely deduct from the quantity of manure supplied; but becoming incapable of feeding on the herbage of the downs, after a few years' cultivation, they could no longer be retained by their owners. These facts have therefore again led to a different system, and one more suitable to the peculiar circumstances under which this extensive tract is cultivated. Instead of endeavouring to rival other counties in the size and beauty of their sheep, the Wiltshire farmers, like their ancestors, now look to the hardiness of the animal, and to the most effective means of raising food for their stock during winter. To combine these objects with improvement, has indeed formed the principle upon which the introduction of new breeds, or the crossing them with the old ones, has been lately attempted; and, for some time, warm contests were kept up between the different speculators, respecting the breeds, really possessing the best claims to general attention. These contests, however,

however, have at length nearly subsided: the majority of sheep are the long legged Wiltshire breed; but many flocks consist of the South Downs sheep from Sussex, which were first introduced into the county by Mr. Mighell of Kennet, in the year 1789. This kind being small in size, and extremely hardy, is both easily fed and able to support the rigour of winter, which are essential requisites in a country so cold as the Downs, and so scantily supplied with winter food. The original Wiltshire breed are thought by some farmers to be no less hardy than the South Down; but they do not feed so close, and are certainly inferior in carcase as well as in wool. Some persons, notwithstanding, regard the former, as the more eligible breed for Wiltshire, because of their being the natural stock of the county, and they imagine, that the South Down breed, not having this advantage, will soon begin to decline. Fact, however, is hitherto in direct opposition to this reasoning, for these sheep are improved as a breed, while at the same time the total number, in the district, is nearly one-third higher than at any former period.

In the south-west portion of Wiltshire, adjoining to Dorsetshire, a considerable number of Cows are kept for the purpose of making butter; in order to assist, with the contiguous parts of the latter county and Somersetshire, in the supply of the cities of Bath and Salisbury, and some towns of the northern district, which lie immediately in the neighbourhood of the great cheese dairies, where whey butter only is made.

The Wiltshire Downs, as Mr. Davis asserts, produce not only every kind of natural grass, but also various sorts of plants; "and the sweetness of the feed depends much more on its being kept close, and eaten as fast as it shoots, than on any particular good quality of the grass itself; for there are many Downs which, when they are closely fed, appear to be very sweet; but which, if suffered to run a year or two without a full stock on them, will become so coarse and sour, that sheep would almost as soon starve as eat the grass they produce. Even on those parts of the Downs, where the finer and sweeter grasses abound, the soil is frequently

so loose and porous, that nothing but close and constant treading will prevent them from dying away, or being choked by the larger and coarser grasses." \*

With respect to the arable cultivation of this district, it possesses no very peculiar features. Fallowing is in very general use; and the chief manure, as already remarked, is the produce of the sheep-fold. The most general crops on the high white-lands are wheat and barley; and on the grounds, in the vallies, green crops for the winter maintenance of the sheep and cattle. Potatoes are likewise planted in considerable quantities on the sandy veins which run through the county in this division. On the meadow lands, irrigation is practised, perhaps, more extensively here, than in any county of England, and with signal advantages. Indeed water meadows are indispensable appendages to a South Wiltshire farm; as without them it would be almost impossible to pursue the present system of sheep-breeding, which is certainly more profitable to the farmer, to his landlord, and to the country at large, than any other mode of agriculture that could be substituted in its stead †.

One meadow at *Orcheston*, which is usually ranked among the water-meadows, though the overflowing in this instance is entirely natural, has long attracted particular notice on account of the extraordinary luxuriance, and supposed peculiar character, of its grass. This meadow is situated in the centre of a gentle dip, or shallow valley, formed by smooth easy swells of the Downs, and comprises an extent of somewhat more than two acres and a half. The soil here is a pale brown loam, noways apparently differing from the soils usually found in the bottoms between the hills of all chalk districts; and the stream which overflows it is merely one of those periodical springs so common in similar tracts.

\* Davis's "General View," &c. p. 80.

† For an account of the method of forming water meadows, and their general management, the reader is referred to Marshall's "Economy of the Southern Counties," Vol. II. and to Davis's "General View of the Agriculture of Wiltshire," p. 116.

tracts. Its fertility, however, is certainly astonishing; twelve tons of hay being frequently produced from this small spot in one season; and not only is the crop prolific, but the quality of the hay is exceedingly good.

Concerning the kind of grass which the meadow affords, much difference of opinion prevails among botanists and agriculturalists. Marshall describes it as "an *agrostis*, or bent-grass," mixed with the mild or "creeping crowfoot (*ranunculus repens*) together with some plants of the common crowfoot (*ranunculus acris*)." Davis strenuously contends that it is the *agrostis stolonifera*, alone. Others maintain that it is the *poa trivialis*\*; and some few that it is a distinct species from any known in England. Dr. Maton, differing from all these opinions, says it is not composed of one kind of grass, but of most of the grasses which grow in other meadows, and chiefly of the three species called the *hollus lonatus*, the *lolium perenne*, with some mixture of the *agrostis stolonifera*†. This gentleman further states, that when he visited Orcheston, in August 1798, all the grasses were pretty nearly of the same length, and measured about seven feet.

The distinguishing feature of the agriculture of North Wiltshire is the pasturage, or grazing system; which is conducted principally with a view to the supply of the dairy with milk for the manufacture of cheese. Great numbers of Cows are, therefore, kept in that district, and a considerable part of them is likewise reared in it; but many of the dairy farmers conceiving it more for their interest to purchase them full grown, when they can have a choice, than to breed them, and run the risks attendant on that practice, have of late years almost entirely abandoned it. The stock most prevalent in North-Wiltshire is the long horned, or as they are commonly called, the "North Country" cows; but the Devonshire kind has also been introduced for some time; and the farmers, as may be supposed, vary much in opinion respecting their comparative merits. The supporters of the former contend

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\* Marshall's Economy of the Southern Counties, Vol. II. p. 341.

† Transactions of the Linnean Society, Vol. V.

that they afford a greater quantity of milk, and produce a more enlarged carcase when turned out to be fatted than the latter. On the other hand, the favourers of the Devonshire cows assert that they give as much milk as the long horned kind, and yet are so much smaller, and eat so much less food, that the quantity of land necessary to keep two of the one sort will support three of the other, while at the same time the latter possess the advantage of arriving at perfection nearly two years earlier.

The Cheese of North Wiltshire has long been deservedly famed, though for some time after it became the staple commodity here, it was sold in the London market as the manufacture of Gloucestershire. Now, however, much of it is well known under the appellation of the "North-Wiltshire," and is very generally esteemed superior to the cheese of the adjoining county, being equally rich as the best sort of the vale of Berkley, and free from that degree of pungency, or sharpness, which is so offensive to some palates\*. In all things relative to the dairy, indeed, the inhabitants of this district probably excel those of any part in England, and evince that the quality of its produce depends fully as much on proper management as on any peculiarity of situation, soil, or climate, as it is well known that few parts of country vary more, in these circumstances, than the different portions of North-Wiltshire, and yet the cheese is almost equally good throughout its whole extent. This article, as made here, is of various sorts, but the most common are the "Thin Cheeses," the "Broad Thick" and the "Loaf Cheeses." Of these the two first mentioned are characterized by Mr Marshall, as resembling those of the vale of Berkley, and as usually sold for "double

\* Marshall's Rural Economy of Gloucestershire, &c. Vol. II. p. 142-11  
2d Edit. 2 vols 8vo. 1796. This work contains much interesting information on agricultural subjects, particularly respecting the management of dairy farms, and the different processes of making cheese, interspersed with many judicious reflections on the peculiarities of each system, and the necessity of investigating the subject in a scientific manner.

“double and single Gloucester,” in the metropolis. The last is that peculiarly distinguished by the name of the “North Wiltshire,” and described by the same author as having “of late years become so high in fashion as to fetch fifteen or twenty shillings a hundred weight more at market than Thin Cheese of perhaps a superior quality.” \*

But though the principal part of the pasture lands in this district is devoted to the purposes of the dairy, a considerable portion of them is also appropriated to grazing cattle for sale. In truth, the latter branch of agricultural pursuit has extended itself greatly of late years, and has in some degree lessened the number and extent of the dairy-farms: it occupies about a fourth of the whole pasturage in North Wiltshire. Some large flocks of sheep are kept here; but their amount is rapidly decreasing, and the land applied to a better purpose. A few sheep are likewise attached to almost every dairy-farm for private use.

The manures employed in this tract are chiefly the produce of the sheep-fold, and of the stalls and sheds, whether the land is under grass or tillage. Irrigation is comparatively but little practised; though such farmers as have adopted the system uniformly acknowledge that it is fraught with great advantages here as well as in South-Wiltshire.

*Pigs* are reared in vast numbers in different parts of the county, and particularly constitute essential appendages to the dairy farms of its northern division. The most general kind is a mixture of the long eared white, or “Old Wiltshire pig,” and the “Black African, or Negro,” which cross has been found to be a very signal improvement on both breeds. Many of these animals are sold alive to the butchers for the supply of the neighbouring towns with pork; but the far greater proportion of them are killed by the farmers themselves, and cured as *Bacon*. The last article of Wiltshire produce is no less celebrated than its cheese, at least when the pig has been principally bred on the whey and



offal of the dairy; and has received a mixture of barley-meal as fattening food.

**WASTE LANDS.**—It is a very common idea; one indeed which strikes every traveller unacquainted with the economy of this county, that the Wiltshire Downs, (and particularly Salisbury plain,) consist entirely of “waste land.” The notion, however, is completely erroneous; for if the correct appropriation of land is to be estimated by its comparative utility in different conditions, the application of the grounds in the chalk district cannot be very easily improved, or materially altered for the better. The Wiltshire Downs in fact would be injured, and not benefited, by the exertions of agricultural skill, as the nature of the herbage is such as to render them much “sweeter for sheep when close fed than if trained up like rich pastures.” But though these remarks are applicable in general, to the higher lands, many exceptions could be pointed out, particularly in the valleys, in which the grounds, now in commonage, might be made much more valuable to their possessors, and beneficial to the country, by being placed in a state of severalty, and properly cultivated.

In North Wiltshire the number of common fields is very great; but none of them are of any considerable extent. It is a matter of regret, however, that they should exist at all, as many of them are dispersed over the richest soil in the district; and, if brought under regular cultivation, would be extremely productive. There are also some Heaths which are susceptible of improvement; but in general they would pay better for planting, particularly those in the vicinity of Bradon Forest.

**FORESTS, CHASES, WOODLANDS, AND PLANTATIONS.** At an early period, history informs us, that a great part of Wiltshire was covered with trees, and was therefore considered forest. This statement, however, must have applied chiefly to the north-western division

sion of the county, as little doubt can be entertained but that the high lands of its southern district have remained in their present open and unsheltered condition from the most remote ages. North-Wiltshire is particularly noticed in the ancient writers as opposing many difficulties to the conquests of Vespasian, from the close and woody nature of its surface.

The *Forests* which lay either partly, or wholly, in Wiltshire, were,

First. The *New-Forest*, which was formed, or greatly enlarged, by William the Conqueror, occupied a considerable portion of the lands on its southern and eastern confines; and by some writers it is said to have extended even so far as Devizes. A short account of this forest will be found in our description of Hampshire, to which the reader is referred \*.

Secondly. *Selwood-Forest*, which was situated mostly in Somersetshire, comprehended likewise a portion of the lands on the south-western side of this county. By whom it was first constituted a forest, or when disafforested, is equally uncertain; but it was apparently a forest in the Anglo-Saxon era, and we find it related that it was within its boundaries, that Alfred remained for some months, when he considered his army too weak to oppose the Danes in the open field.

Thirdly. *Melksham-Forest*, which covered a large tract of country, extended from the vicinity of the town whence it derived its name, northward towards Chippenham. In the reign of Edward I. the custody of this forest was committed to Matthew Fitz-John, governor of the castle of Devizes; but he having neglected his trust, and materially injured the plantations, the king took the charge of it for some time into his own hands. Upon promises of better management in future, it was again restored to the custody of Fitz-John.

Fourthly. *Chippenham-Forest*, which, in the reign of the monarch last mentioned, was likewise committed to the custody of the governor of that of Melksham; and is supposed to have been con-

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\* See *Beauties*, Vol. VI. p. 10, 11.

nected with, or attached to, the palace of the West Saxon monarchs when they resided at Chippenham.

Fifthly. *Bradon-Forest*, situated on the northern skirts of the county, and probably the most extensive of any of those which lay wholly within its boundaries. It was anciently called *Bredon-Wood*. According to Brompton, Æthelwold, in the year 905, "put to military execution all Brithendune, (that is, all the inhabitants of Bradon Forest,) as far as Brandestoke, or, as Higden more rightly expresses it, Bradenstoke." In the reign of Henry IV. Edmund de Langton, Earl of Cambridge, and Duke of York, was keeper of this forest, and left it, with his other estates, to his son and heir Edward, Earl of Rutland. Almost all the trees, of which there were many valuable ones here, are now cut down; and the grounds are either inclosed for cultivation, or lie, as already hinted, in a waste or commonable condition. Whether the application of this tract to agricultural purposes renders it more useful and productive than it would be if again appropriated to the growth of wood, is extremely questionable. Indeed we have little hesitation in declaring our conviction that it is not, and never will be, until the soil and under-strata shall suffer a more material change, than we have yet learned that culture is capable of effecting.

Sixthly. *Clarendon-Forest*, which was probably a branch of the New-Forest, and during several reigns, seems to have been a favourite resort of the English monarchs. It was on his return from hunting in this forest that Edward the martyr was murdered by order of his mother-in-law, with the view of securing the throne to her son Ethelred\*. Here also it is most likely that Henry II. and his successors, to Edward III. enjoyed the amusements of the chase, during their frequent visits to the palace, from which the name of the forest was borrowed, and which,

\* Lewis's "Historical Antiquities concerning Forests and Forest Laws," p. 2. 4to. 1812. from a manuscript history of Salisbury: but Henry of Huntingdon, and some other old historians, say that Edward, after spending the day in hunting near Wareham, was murdered at Coffe-Castle. See Beanties. Vol. IV. p. 593, &c.

which, as previously noticed, was the theatre of many important occurrences in English history.

• Seventhly. *Chute-Forest*, which is situated on the eastern confines of the county adjoining to Hampshire, and was probably, as well as Clarendon-Forest, a collateral branch, or portion of the New-Forest.

Lastly. *Savernake-Forest*, is the only one in Wiltshire still remaining in a well-wooded condition; and it may be observed that this is the only one in England in the possession of a subject. It is the property of the Earl of Aylesbury, into whose family it came by the marriage of Thomas, Lord Bruce, with Lady Anne Seymour, the daughter of Henry, Lord Beauchamp, and the sister and heiress of William Seymour, Duke of Somerset, sixth in descent from the Protector. When annexed to the Crown it was usually assigned by the reigning monarch as part of the jointure of the Queen Consort, and was, in particular, long held by Eleanor, wife of King Edward III. Several warrants to the keepers, signed by her Highness, are still extant among the writings relating to the forest in the custody of the noble owner. Many of the oaks here are exceedingly large and majestic. One, called by way of distinction the *King Oak*, is remarkable both for the size of its trunk, and the wide spread of its luxuriant branches. This forest, with the adjoining park of Tottenham, the residence of the Bruce family, comprehends an extent of country, nearly sixteen miles in circumference. It is well stocked with deer, and exhibits some fine and highly interesting scenery.\*

The *Chace* within Wiltshire are supposed to have been anciently numerous, but only three woodland districts now retain that peculiar appellation. These are, *Cranbourn-Chace*, *Vern-ditch-Chace*, and *Albourn-Chace*. The two first adjoin immediately to each other, and occupy a long, narrow tract of country

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\* It may here be stated that Windsor-Forest includes that portion of Wiltshire which is situated near Oakingham in Berkshire, at the distance of almost thirty miles from the eastern border of the county.

on the southern confines of Wiltshire, where it unites with Dorsetshire. The last is situated almost in the very centre of Marlborough Downs, and forms a remarkable contrast to the bleak and naked appearance of the surrounding scenery.

With respect to the *Woodlands* and *Plantations* not comprehended in the forests or chaces, it may be remarked that patches of trees occur frequently in the vallies, and particularly in the northern district. Some fine plantations surround the numerous seats by which the county is adorned; but too little attention, we fear, is paid in general to the proper rearing of wood, considering the great scarcity of fuel arising from the total absence of coal strata.\*

**ROADS AND CANALS.**—Few counties in England are better supplied with turnpike-roads than Wiltshire. The great road from London to Bath and Bristol enters the county at Hungerford; and, passing through Marlborough and Kennet, divides at Beckhampton-Inn, into two branches, one of which continues by Calne and Chippenham, to Bath; while the other proceeds in a curvilinear direction, by Devizes and Melksham, to the same place. A second great road runs from London to Exeter through Salisbury; and a third also from the metropolis over the Downs, by Amesbury, by Deptford-Inn and Mere, into Somersetshire. All these roads, as well as numerous others of lesser note, which branch off from Salisbury and the chief towns, and cross Wiltshire, are well constructed, and generally kept in excellent repair.

As to the *private roads*, they are like those of most other parts of the island, good or bad in proportion to the plenty or scarcity of proper materials for their formation. In the southern division of the county, they are generally much better than in its northern portion. Indeed, in the latter district, the private roads were even

\* It has been imagined that Coal is to be obtained from Wiltshire: and about twenty five or thirty years back a shaft was sunk in Malmesbury-Common. but, after proceeding to a considerable depth, without obtaining the desired substance, the adventurers deserted the place.

even proverbially bad, till the construction of the late turnpikes stimulated the inhabitants to improve their parochial ways.

The *Canals* which intersect any part of Wiltshire are four in number: first, the 'Thames and Severn Canal;—secondly, the Kennet and Avon Canal;—thirdly, the Wiltshire and Berkshire Canal;—and, fourthly, the Southampton Canal.

The *Thames and Severn Canal*, which commences at Stroud in Gloucestershire, and terminates near Lechlade in the same county, only passes through a very small portion of the northern boundary of Wiltshire. It has, therefore, been very properly described in our account of Gloucestershire, to which the reader is referred.\*

The *Kennet and Avon Canal*, intended to connect the navigation of these two rivers, and consequently that of the Thames and Avon, was first projected in the year 1794, when an act was obtained for its construction, in a certain line from Newbery to where the Avon is navigable near Bath. This act empowered the company to raise the sum of 420,000*l.* to be divided into 3500 shares, with a limited number of half shares; and also to increase that amount by 150,000*l.* more, if the original sum should not be found adequate to the completion of the intended plan. Two years after the passing of this act another was obtained; and again, in 1798, a third, both approving of variations which it was deemed proper to make in the line, or direction, of the canal. By these delays in the execution of their object, and the expenses which necessarily attended their applications to Parliament, the company found themselves, in 1801, compelled to solicit a fourth act, in order to obtain authority to raise a further sum of 240,000*l.* by the creation of 4000 new shares. An act was accordingly passed for this purpose; and the increase of money for a time produced some beneficial effects; but the shares soon again experienced considerable depreciation. In the report of a general committee held on the 23d of Sept. 1803, it is stated, "that though

nine-

nineteen miles of the line was opened; yet the most difficult and expensive part, a junction with the Avon, was only in forwardness; that a length of fifteen miles, from Foxhanger to Pewsey, was only begun; that eight miles from thence to Great Bedwin remained untouched; and that from Great Bedwin to Newbery, an extent of fifteen miles only was navigable." Hence it appeared that nearly ten years after its commencement not above one-half of the undertaking had been accomplished, though the actual expenditure was declared to have exceeded 500,000*l.* as early as the year 1801. The unpromising view of the concern which the report presented, as may be supposed, contributed in no small degree to lessen the value of its shares. The work, however, still went on, notwithstanding all these obstacles; and at length, in June, 1809, an advertisement appeared in the public papers, stating that the canal would be open for boats at the ensuing Christmas, an event which we are informed really took place. The present line of this canal, from Bath, crosses the whole of the county of Wilts from west to east, entering it near *Winsley*, to the north of which it crosses the river Avon, and again at *Bradford*; it then passes on the south side of *Trowbridge*, and runs along by *Polshot* to *Devizes*. On the north-west of this town it ascends a long and steep hill, by means of several locks. It next proceeds in a valley for several miles; and passes through the parishes of *Bishops-Cannings*, *All-Cannings*, *Stanton-Barnard*, *Alton-Barns*, *Wilcot*, and *Wootton-Rivers*, where it is conveyed through a hill by a tunnel; and is afterwards conducted by the side of a river, through *Great Bedwin*, to *Hungerford*, where it enters *Berkshire*, and continues along the banks of the *Kennet*, which it crosses at *Newbery*, till its junction with that river near *Reading*.

The *Wiltshire and Berkshire Canal* strikes off from the *Kennet* and *Avon Canal* at *Semington*; and, running in a direction almost due north, passes by *Melksham* towards *Chippenham*, (with which town, as well as with that of *Calne*, it is connected by small collateral branches) from whence it proceeds to *Foxham*.

Soon

Soon after, it turns almost directly to the east, flowing by Wotton-Basset, Chaddenton, and Swindon, to within a mile of Highworth, near which town it leaves this county, and passes into Berkshire on its way to join the Thames at a short distance below Abingdon. The first Act for the formation of this Canal was passed in 1795; and by it the Company were empowered to raise 111,000*l.* in shares of 100*l.* each; and in case of the insufficiency of that sum to complete their plan, 150,000*l.* more, by subscription or mortgage. Accordingly, in conformity with these powers, the two sums were successively obtained; but both together fell far short of the expenditure actually found necessary for the completion of the undertaking. A second application was therefore made to Parliament for leave to increase their stock, by an additional sum of 200,000*l.* which was granted; and the Canal has at length been opened for navigation.

The *Salisbury and Southampton Canal* commences at the former city, and running south-east leaves Wiltshire at West-Dean. This Canal was begun in 1795, and is particularly useful in facilitating the conveyance of coals to Salisbury and its neighbourhood.

These different canals are carried over the rivers which they intersect in their line through this county by numerous *Aqueducts*, some of them of considerable extent. The only *Tunnel* is that on the Kennet and Avon Canal near Burbage, which, as well as the more conspicuous aqueducts, will be noticed hereafter.

**MANUFACTURES.**—The manufactures of Wiltshire are various, and of great extent. *Salisbury* is noted for its flannels and fancy woollens; and besides carries on a considerable manufactory of cutlery and steel goods, which are probably superior in workmanship to any in the kingdom. *Wilton* is celebrated for a large manufactory of carpets, and another for fancy woollens. At *Mere*, and in its neighbourhood, a great quantity of linen is made, chiefly dowlas and bed-ticks. Broad cloths, kerseymeres, and fancy cloths, are the principal produce of the towns of Brad-

†

ford,



ford, Trowbridge, Warminster, Westbury, Melksham, Chippenham, and all the adjacent towns and villages, from Chippenham to Heytesbury inclusive. *Albourn* carries on an excellent manufactory of cotton goods, of which fustians and thickets form the most valuable portion; and *Swindon* and its vicinity has been long famed for its manufactory of gloves. We shall only here further add, that in some parishes near Stourton and Maiden-Bradley, the poor have of late years been supplied with flax\* from the neighbouring manufactories in Dorsetshire, and also with silk from the throwsters at Bruton in Somersetshire. Adverting to this subject, Mr. Davis says, "the spinning of silk is an admirable employment for the poor of any village. Women and girls work at home, and children are sent to spin at a school appointed for the purpose, under the management of a mistress, with the occasional attendance of the manufacturer. The raw material is weighed out, and the work weighed back again, deducting for waste from the spinning money; and the great value of the article requiring care to secure their weekly earnings, has taught the cottagers of these villages a degree of carefulness which was before but little known to them."\*

ECCLIASTICAL AND CIVIL DIVISION AND GOVERNMENT — The whole of this county is situated in the province of Canterbury, and, with the exception of the parish of Kingswood,† is in the diocese of Salisbury. It comprehends two Archdeaconries, Sarum and Wilts, the former comprising the deaneries of Salisbury, Amesbury, Chalk, Pottern, Wilton, and Wily; and the latter, with the annexed rectory of Minety, those of Avebury, Cricklade, Malmesbury, and Marlborough.

As in the other counties of England, the chief civil magistrates of Wiltshire are the Lord Lieutenant, the Custos Rotulorum, and the High Sheriff, which last is elected annually, and whose official

\* General View, &c. p. 217—220.

† The benefice of Kingswood, in the Diocese and Archdeaconry of Gloucester. Willis's Survey of the Cathedrals, Vol. III. p. 113. 4to. Edit. 1713.

official business is chiefly conducted by an under or deputy-sheriff. The other local members of government are justices of the peace, mayors and bailiffs of boroughs, and a variety of subordinate officers. The acting magistrates are seventy-three, and the petty-sessions for the county thirteen, in number.

Wiltshire is comprehended in the western circuit, and sends thirty-four members to Parliament, viz. two knights of the shire, two citizens for Salisbury, and two burgesses for each of the following boroughs: Chippenham, Calne, Cricklade, Devizes, Heytesbury, Hindon, Downton, Great-Bedwin, Marlborough, Malmesbury, Ludgershall, Westbury, Wilton, Wotton-Basset, and Old Sarum. At an early period the whole county was divided into twenty-nine portions, called *hundreds*, (named in a subsequent page,) and these are again subdivided into two hundred and ninety-five smaller districts, called *Parishes*; with parts of fourteen others. In the county is *one city*, Salisbury, and twenty-three *market-towns*, viz. Amesbury, Bradford, Calne, Chippenham, Cricklade, Devizes, Downton, Great-Bedwin, Heytesbury, Hindon, Ludgershall, Malmesbury, Marlborough, Market-Lavington, Melksham, Mere, Swindon, Trowbridge, Warminster, Westbury, Wilton, (the county-town), and Wotton-Basset.

*List of Persons to whom the Conqueror gave Lands in Wiltshire, and of the other Landholders therein, mentioned in the Domesday-book.*

William the Conqueror, in rewarding his Norman adherents for their services during his contest for the English throne, conferred upon them a number of manors in this county: To *Hugh Montgomery*, Earl of Arundel, &c. he gave three manors: to *Hugh de Abrincis*, Earl of Chester, six: *Walter Giffard*, Earl of Buckingham, one: *Robert*, Earl of Moreton and Cornwall, five: *Robert*, Earl of Mellent and Leicester, seven: *William*, Earl of Ewe and Lord Hastings, sixteen: *Ralph de Mortimer*, ten:

*Richard de Tonebrigge*, one. *Edward*, Earl of Saresbury, thirty-three: *Alberic de Vere*, ten: *Henry de Ferrers*, three: *Diogo de Cliffard*, three: *Roger*, Lord Beikley, three: *Robert Fitzgerald*, nine: *Milo Crispin*, twelve: *William Fitz-Ausculph*, one: *William Peverel*, two: *Richard de Curci*, three: *Hugh de Bolbee*, one: *Robert D'Oily*, besides forty-two houses, twenty-eight. and *Osbert Giffard*, ten \*

In addition to the above list of names, the following persons at the era of the Norman conquest appear to have possessed lands in this county.

The King. The Bishop of Winchester. The Bishop of Salisbury. The Bishop of Bayeux. The Bishop of Coutances. The Bishop of Lisieux. The Abbey of Glastonbury. The Abbey of Malmesbury. The Abbey of Westminster. The Abbey of Winchester. The Abbey of Cranbourn. Abbess of Shaftesbury. Abbess of Wilton. Abbess of Winchester. Abbess of Rumsey. Abbess of Amersbury. The Church of Bec. Guald, Priest of Wilton. The Canons of Lisieux. Earl Roger. Earl Hugo. Edward of Salisbury. Ernulfus de Hesdin. Alured of Marleburgh. Humphrey de Lisle. Gilbert de Brietule. Duand of Gloucester. William de Braicose. William de Moyn. William de Falcise. Walscinus de Dowar. Walerian Venator. William, son of Widon. Richard, son of Earl Gilbert. Radulfus de Mortemer. Robert, son of Girold. Robert, son of Roll. Roger de Cuicelle. Bernard Pancevolt. Berenger Gifard. Osbern Gifard. Hugo Lasne. Hugo, son of Baldric. Humphrey Camerarius. Guntridus Maldwith. Alured de Hispania. Aulfus, the sheriff. Nigellus, the physician. Osbern, the priest. Richard Puinguant. Robert Marescal. Robert Flavus. Richard Sturmud. Rainaldus Canud. Maci de Moretanfa. Gozelinus Rivere. Godescal. Herman and others in the service of the King. Odo, and other Thanes of the King. Herveus, and other officers of the King.†

*Ancient*

\* *Magna Britannia*, Wilts. p. 50.

† Wyndham's *Wiltshire* from *Domesday book*, P. 6.

*Ancient and present Nobility of Wiltshire, including those who have taken titles from places in the county.*

The persons who have derived titles from Wiltshire, but which are now extinct, were,

**WILLIAM SCROPE**, or **SCROOPE**, a younger son of Henry, Lord Scrope, of Masham, created *Earl of Wiltshire* in the twentieth year of King Richard II. This honour became extinct in the first year of the reign of Henry IV.

**JAMES BUTLER**, son and heir of James, Earl of Ormond, created *Earl of Wiltshire* in the twenty-seventh year of the reign of Henry IV, in whose cause he afterwards suffered death, when the title became extinct.

**JOHN STAFFORD**, a younger son of Humphry Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, created *Earl of Wiltshire* in the ninth year of the reign of Edward IV. In this family the title continued till the fourteenth year of Henry VIII, when it became extinct by the failure of issue male in the person of Henry Stafford, the then Earl.

**THOMAS BULLEN**, Viscount Rochford, created *Earl of Wiltshire* in the twentieth year of Henry VIII.: at his demise the honour once more became extinct.

**JAMES DOUGLAS**, Duke of Queensberry, created *Baron Douglas of Amesbury* in Wiltshire, 8th of August 1788. This nobleman died without issue in 1810, when the English title expired.

**PATRICK DE FURREUX**, or **DEVEREUX**; created *Earl of Salisbury* by the Empress Maud in the eighteenth year of K. Stephen.

**WILLIAM LONGSPEE**, or **LONGSPATA**, created *Earl of Salisbury* in the reign of Richard I.

**WILLIAM DE MONTACUTE**, created *Earl of Salisbury* in the tenth year of Edward III.

**RICHARD NEVILLE**, of Warwick, created *Earl of Salisbury* in the reign of Henry VI.

GEORGE, Duke of Clarence, created in right of his wife, *Earl of Warwick and Salisbury* 12 Edward IV. His son, Edward, was attainted 19 Henry VIII.

MARGARET, daughter of the former, *Countess of Salisbury*, by patent, in the reign of Henry VIII. attainted the 3d year of the same reign.

EDWARD HYDE, *Earl of Clarendon*. Creation dated 1661. Title extinct 1733.

HENRY HYDE, created *Lord Hyde of Hindon* in 1700, at his death in 1755 the title became extinct.

JAMES LEY, *Earl of Marlborough*, sixth son of Henry Ley of Tisbury, created 1626—extinct 1679.

HENRY DANVERS, *Earl of Danby*, *Lord Dantrey*, created 21st July 1 James I.—extinct 1615.

OLIVER ST JOHN, Viscount Grandison in Ireland, created *Lord Tregooze of Hinchinorth*, 21st May, 2 Charles I.—Extinct December 3, 1600.

ANTHONY DUNCOMBE, *Lord Feversham, Baron of Downton*, created 1747, extinct 1763.

#### *The present Nobility of the County are*

CHARLES INGOLDSPY POWELL, thirteenth Marquis of Winchester, *Earl of Wiltshire*, Baron St John of Basing, in the county of Hants, and Premier Marquis of England. Sir William Powlett, of Basing in Hampshire, was created Lord St John of Basing, 9th March 1538—9, 29th Henry VIII., and Earl of Wiltshire 19th January 1549—50. Chief seats at Ampthot, near Andover, Hants, and Rotherfield Park, near Aldersford in the same county.

GEORGE SPENCER, third *Duke*, and *Earl of Marlborough*. His Grace enjoys these titles as the descendant by the female line of the celebrated John Churchill, created Earl of Marlborough, 9th of April, 1689, 1 William and Mary; and Duke, 14th December, 1702, 1 Anne. Chief seats at Blenheim, near Woodstock, and at Blandford Lodge, near Charlbury, Oxfordshire.

HENRY PETTY, third Marquis of Lansdowne, *Viscount Calne* and *Calston*. His father was created Viscount Calne Nov. 30, 1784.—Chief seat: *Bowood*, near Calne, Wiltshire.

JAMES CECIL, first *Marquis*, and seventh *Earl*, of *Salisbury*. Sir Robert Cecil, first Earl, was raised to that dignity, 4th May, 1605, 3 James I. The creation of the Marquisate took place, 18th August, 1789.—Chief seat: Hatfield, in the county of Hertford.

THOMAS THYNNE, second Marquis of Bath, and third *Baron Thynne*, of *Warminster*: the latter title was originally conferred on Thomas Thynne, of Longleat, December 2, 1682, 34 Car. II. Chief seat: *Longleat*, Wiltshire.

JOHN HOWARD, fifteenth Earl of Suffolk, eighth Earl of Berkshire, and seventh *Baron Howard* of *Charlton*, to which last honour Charles, second Earl of Berkshire, was raised 23d January, 1621—2. 19 James I.—Chief seat: *Charlton Park*, Wiltshire.

JACOB PLEYDELL BOUVERIE, second Earl of Radnor, and third Lord Longford, *Baron* of *Longford*, in the county of Wilts. Date of creation 29th June, 1747, 21 George II.—Chief seat: *Longford Castle*, Wiltshire.

THOMAS BRUCE BRUDENEL, first Earl of Aylesbury, and second *Lord Bruce* of *Tottenham*, to which latter title his family was elevated 17th April, 1746, 19 George II.—Chief seat: *Tottenham Park*, Wiltshire.

THOMAS VILLIERS, second *Earl* of *Clarendon*, and Baron Hyde of *Hindon*. Date of barony, 31st of May, 1756, 29 George II; and of the earldom 8th June, 1776, 16 George III.—Chief seat: Grove-Park, Hertfordshire.

JAMES HARRIS, first *Earl* and *Baron* of *Malmsbury*, and Viscount Fitzharris of Durusford, created Baron Malmsbury 19th September, 1788, George III. and earl, 29th December, 1800, George III. Chief seat: Park-Place, Berkshire.

GEORGE ST. JOHN, Viscount Bolingbroke and St. John, and

*Baron St. John of Lydiard Tregooze.* The creation to the titles of Viscount and Baron St. John took place on the 7th July 1712, 11 Anne.—Chief seat: at *Lydiard Tregooze*.

CHARLES, LORD STOURTON, sixteenth *Baron of Stourton* in the county of Wilts. Sir John Stourton, the first peer, was raised to that dignity by patent in the 26th year of Henry VI.

JOHN PEYTO VERNEY, sixteenth *Baron Willoughby de Broke*, in the county of Wilts. The original title was conferred on Sir Robert Willoughby, by writ of summons, 12th August, 1492, 7. Henry VII. Chief seats: at Compton-Murdoc and Chesterton, both in the county of Warwick.

JAMES EVERARD ARUNDEL, ninth Baron Arundel, of *Wardour*, and Count of the sacred Roman Empire. Sir Thomas Arundel was raised to the peerage by letters patent, May 4, 1605, 3 James I.—Chief seats: *Wardour-Castle*, in Wiltshire; and *Irtham-hall*, in Lincolnshire.

HENRY RICHARD FOX, third Lord Holland, Baron Holland, of Holland in Lincolnshire, and *Baron Holland of Foxley*, in Wiltshire. His grandfather was elevated to the latter dignity 16th April, 1763.—Chief seat: *Holland-house*, Kensington, Middlesex.

ANNABELLA-CAMPELL, *Baron Lucas of Crudwell*: patent of creation May 7, 1663, 15th Charles.II.

The following noblemen, though deriving no title from any place in the county, have *Seats* in it.

EDWARD ADOLPHUS SEYMOUR, Duke of Somerset, Baron Seymour, &c.—Chief seats: at *Maiden Bradcly*, and at *Scend*, Wiltshire. His Grace has recently purchased *Bulstrode*, in Buckinghamshire.

GEORGE AUGUSTUS HERBERT, Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery, *Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum* of the county of Wilts.—Chief seat: *Wilton-House*, near Salisbury.

CHARLES HENRY MORDAUNT, Earl of Peterborough and Monmouth, and Viscount Mordaunt of Avalon in the county of Somerset,---Chief seat: at *Dontzey*, near Malmesbury.

### BARONETS OF WILTSHIRE.

Amongst the *Extinct* Baronets of this county are:---*Gorges*, of Longford, created Nov. 25, 1612. *Ley*, of Westbury, created July 9, 1619. *Moody*, of Garesdon, created March 11, 1621. *Button*, of Alton, created March 18, 1621. *Estcourt*, of Newton, created March 17, 1626. *Windebank*, of Hannes, created Nov. 25, 1645. *Spilke*, of Hasillbury, created June 12, 1660. *How*, of Cold-Barwich, created June 20, 1660. *Ernley*, of New Sarum, created Feb. 2, 1660. *Long*, of Whaddon, created March 26, 1601. *Jason*, of Broad-Somerford, created Sept. 5, 1661. *Pinsent*, of Urchfont, created Sept. 13, 1687. *Hungerford*, of Heytesbury. .

The *present* Baronets of the county are:---Sir HENRY CHARLES ENGLFIELD, Bart. of *Wotton-Basset*. Sir Francis, the first baronet, was raised to that dignity May 25, 1612.

Sir WILLIAM PILRCE-ASHE A'COURT, Bart. of *Heytesbury*; created June 23, 1795,---Seat: *Heytesbury-House*, Wiltshire.

Sir GEORGE DUCKETT, Bart. of *Consham*. Date of creation to the title, June 1, 1791,---Seat: *Hartham-House*, Wiltshire.

Sir JOHN METHUEN POORR, Bart. of *Rushall*, created July 8, 1795,---Seat: *Rushall*: Wiltshire.

Sir CHARLES WARRE MALF1, Bart. of *Hartham*. Date of creation Feb. 12, 1791,---Seat: *Widbury-House*, near Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Sir THOMAS WEBB, Bart. of *Odstock*. Sir John Webb was created a baronet April 2, 1614,---Seats: at *Odstock* in Wiltshire, and at Hathrop in Gloucestershire.



The Baronets who do not derive their titles from any place in Wiltshire, yet have *Seats* in it, are

Sir ANDREW BAYNTUN ROIT, Bart. of Sacomb Park in the county of Hertford.---Seat: *Spyc Park*, near Calne.

Sir RICHARD COLT HOARL, Bart. of Barn-Elms in the county of Surrey.---Seat: *Stourhead*, near Mere.

The late Sir JAMES TYLNEY LONG Bart., had a seat at Draycot in this county, now possessed by the Hon. William Wellesley Pole, who married the daughter and heiress of Sir James.

Some account of the more distinguished families above mentioned will be given with the description of their seats, or of the place whence their titles have been respectively derived.

### A TABLE

*Of the Comparative Population of Wiltshire as published by Authority of Parliament in 1811 for four Years.*

Population. 1700.	1750.	1801.	1811.			
153,900	168,400	191,200	200,300			
Divisional meetings of Petty Sessions	Acting County Magistrates.	Number of en- tire Parishes.	Parts of Pa- rishes.	Annual Proportions.		
				One baptism to	One Burial to	One Marriage to
13	73.	295.	14.	35.	54.	136.

**SUMMARY OF THE POPULATION OF WILTSHIRE,**  
*As published by Authority of Parliament in 1811.*

Hundreds, &c.	Houses.	PERSONS.		OCCUPATIONS.		Total of Persons
		Males.	Females.	Families employed in Agriculture.	In Trade and Manufacture.	
Alderbury .....	787	1849	1858	621	122	3707
Amesbury .....	1343	2532	2710	836	248	5242
Bradford .....	1851	4269	5166	548	1446	9435
Branch and Dole.....	1499	3360	3919	974	593	7279
Calne .....	1048	2382	2680	617	433	5062
Cawden and Cad- } worth .....	743	1692	1944	577	151	3636
Chalk .....	495	1215	1337	482	83	2552
Chippenham .....	3317	7833	8653	1759	1420	16486
Damerham, North } and South.....	1046	2374	2630	764	304	5004
Downton.....	1116	2504	2827	782	273	5381
Dunworth .....	990	2416	2921	732	220	5331
Elstub and Everley...	1061	2303	2586	790	240	4889
Frostfield.....	212	555	561	195	31	1116
Heytesbury .....	897	2180	2440	635	274	4620
Highworth, Crick- } lade and Staple. }	1995	4894	5509	1483	411	10403
Kingsbridge .....	1540	3856	4171	1086	365	8027
Kinwardstone.....	1736	4474	4689	1308	333	9163
Malmesbury .....	1813	4443	4825	1389	461	9268
Melksham .....	2472	5706	7105	628	1723	12811
Mere .....	783	1849	2095	296	540	3944
Pottern and Cannings	1419	3379	3819	964	330	7198
Ramsbury .....	560	1394	1462	379	105	2856
Stikley .....	1106	2532	2698	881	191	5230
Swanborough.....	1662	3722	4336	1450	277	8058
Underditch.....	255	541	649	184	70	1190
Warminster .....	1806	3882	4597	825	719	8479
Westbury .....	1193	2761	3181	483	587	5942
Whorwelsdown .....	1014	2498	2837	670	386	5335
Borough of Devizes	725	1776	1974	191	498	3750
Borough of Marl- } borough .....	456	1277	1302	137	405	2579
City of New Sarum	1575	3456	4787	1	1620	8243
Local Militia em- } bodied, May 17, } 1811.....	—	1662	—	—	—	1662
Total residents .....	38515	91560	102268	22657	14857	193828
Amount of natives } supposed to be- } long to the ar- } my, &c. ....	—	6472	—	—	—	6472
Grand total.....						200300

The government, provincial management, number, and state of the *Poor*, in this county, as laid before Parliament in the year 1804, and published by authority of the House of Commons, is detailed in the following particulars. It is stated "That returns were received from three hundred and thirty-six parishes, or places, in the county of WILTS, in the year 1803: in 1785 the returns were from three hundred and thirty-six; and from three hundred and twenty-five in 1776." It is then further stated, "That forty-one parishes, or places, maintain all or part of their poor *in* workhouses: the number of persons so maintained during the year, ending Easter 1803, was one thousand six hundred and seven; and the expense incurred therein amounted to 14,547l. 2s. 0½d.; being at the rate of 8l. 19s. 8d. for each person maintained in that manner: by the returns of 1776, there were then forty workhouses capable of accommodating two thousand and seventy-nine persons. The number of persons relieved *out* of workhouses was forty thousand five hundred and eleven, besides four thousand five hundred and thirty-six who were not parishioners. The expense, incurred in the relief of the poor *not in* workhouses, amounted to 113,888l. 17s. 9¾d. A large proportion of those who were not parishioners appear to have been vagrants: and therefore it is probable that the relief given to this class could not exceed two shillings each, amounting to 453l. 12s. 0d. This sum being deducted from the above 113,888l. 17s. 9¾d. leaves 113,435l. 5s. 9¾d. being at the rate of 2l. 16s. 0d. for each parishioner relieved *out* of any workhouse. The number of persons relieved *in* and *out* of workhouses, was forty-two thousand one hundred and twenty-eight, besides those who were not parishioners. Excluding the expense supposed to be incurred in the relief of this class of poor all other expenses relative to the maintenance of the poor amounted to 131,864l. 19s. 9¾d. being at the rate of 3l. 2s. 7d. for each parishioner relieved. The resident population of the county of Wilts in the year 1801 appears, from the Population Abstract, to have been one hundred eighty-five thousand one hundred and

†

seven;

seven; so that the number of parishioners relieved from the poor's rate appears to be twenty-three in a hundred of the resident population. The number of persons belonging to Friendly Societies appears to be six in a hundred of the resident population. The amount of the total money raised by rates appears to average at 0l. 16s. 0½d. per head on the population. The amount of the whole expenditure on account of the poor appears to average at 0l. 14s. 3½d. per head on the population. The expenditure in suits of law, removal of paupers, and expenses of overseers, and other officers, according to the present abstract, amounts to 3,682l. 15s. 0d. The amount of such expenditure, according to the returns of 1785, was then 2,501l. 13s. 9d. The expenditure in purchasing materials for employing the poor, according to the present abstract, amounts to 840l. 8s. 7½d. The amount of such expenditure, according to the returns of 1785, was then 434l. 11s. 9d. It does not appear from the returns received, that the poor of any parish or place in this county are farmed or maintained under contract. The poor of six parishes are maintained and employed under the regulations of special acts of Parliament. Thirty-six Friendly Societies have been enrolled at the Quarter Sessions of this county, pursuant to the Acts of 33, and 35 Geo. 3."

### OLD SARUM,

Though a spot apparently desolate, and with scarcely a vestige of human habitation, is nevertheless peculiarly interesting to the topographer, and to the antiquary: for it is equally the province of both these writers to investigate and develope the history of former times, to display the progressive and fluctuating state of towns and buildings at various eras, and to present to the readers' imagination a picture of the manners and customs of our ancestors, as manifested in their public works, and popular pursuits. Contemplated in this light, Old Sarum must be as interesting to the English antiquary, as the sites of ancient Troy and Carthage can

can be to the classical reader. It was once a proud, populous, and flourishing city, adorned with a Cathedral and other churches; and guarded by lofty bulwarks, towers, and a castle: but now it displays nothing of human art, but ditches and banks, which are partly overgrown with wild brush-wood, while the more level land is appropriated to corn and grass.

As happens with most of the works of remote ages, the origin of this ancient city is unknown. The fanciful idea of referring that event to the Phenician Hercules has been already exposed; and, with respect to the various etymological conjectures which have been offered on the subject, we consider them so trivial and uncertain as to be unworthy of repetition. We shall only remark then on this question, that tradition, and all the early accounts of the place extant, refer its foundation to the Britons, at some era prior to the Roman invasion; and that the circular form of the fortifications, and their position on the summit of an eminence, are regarded by most antiquaries, as strongly corroborative of the general assertion. Under this impression Sir Richard Hoare conceives that old Sarum has been most likely one of those fortresses of the Britons, which was wrested from them in the reign of the Emperor Claudius, "when his general, Vespasian, is said to have taken twenty British towns, and to have subdued two powerful nations, one of which is supposed to have been the Belgæ, who inhabited the western counties of Hampshire, Wiltshire, and Somersetshire."\*

But whether this city was among the number taken by Vespasian, or was first founded by the Romans themselves, as some authors imagine, it is universally allowed to have been very early one of the principal stations of that people. If really a  
place

\* "Ancient Wiltshire," Vol. I. p. 223. John Rose, according to the author of the *Magna Britannia* asserts, that Julius Cæsar carried his victories thus far, and built a tower here, as an additional defence to the British fortifications. This statement, however, is probably erroneous, as we find nothing in the *Commentaries* of that illustrious Roman general to give it plausibility, or support. *Mag. Brit. Wilts.*

place of defence, and inhabited before their arrival, its fortifications would now assuredly undergo very material alterations. Indeed it is very probable that the British works only occupied that portion of the hill, which afterwards constituted the citadel, and that all the exterior ditches and walls were constructed either at this, or at a later period. During the Roman era, Old Sarum was denominated *Sorbiodunum*, or *Sorviotunum*; though whether this appellation was originally applied by the Romans, or was a mere modification of its British name, is altogether uncertain; nor is its history, under the government of those illustrious conquerors, better ascertained. Mr. King says, that "there is great reason to think the Emperor Severus sometimes took up his abode here;"\* but we have been unable to discover any authority, either in the best historians, or from the antiquities dug up here, upon which to found such an opinion. To make this inference merely because a few coins have been discovered on the spot is trifling with the subject: and it is to be regretted that any writer should ever resort to so weak and futile an argument. That *Sorbiotunum* continued to be occupied by the Romans for a long time, and probably to the latest period of their residence in Britain, is a circumstance that may be fairly inferred, from the strength and extent of the works, and from the military roads that communicated between this station, and others to the north-east, east, south-east, and west. It is, however, a singular circumstance, that very few genuine *Roman relics* have been discovered on the present site.

As already noticed in the previous general narrative of historical events, Kenric, the son of Cerdic, and the second king of Wessex, besieged and captured Old Sarum, in the year 552, after having overthrown an army of Britons which had interposed, for the protection of the fortress †. This was a most important acquisition to the West Saxons, as it put them in possession of a strong post within the dominions of the enemy, in which they could

\* " *Monimenta Antiqua*," Vol. I. p. 82.

† Vide ante, p. 12. Saxon. Chronicon. *Chronica Ethelwerdi*, in *Savile Rec. Script. Angl.* p. 854.

could establish magazines, and thereby become enabled to extend their conquests with greater rapidity. Accordingly we find that, in a few years posterior to this event, Kenric had subdued not only the whole of Wiltshire, but also some districts of the counties of Somerset and Gloucester.

Of the history of Old Sarum from its first occupation by the Saxons, to the reign of Egbert, only a few imperfect notices occur in the ancient authors. Many changes in its construction, government, and political condition, we may presume took place within that period, which comprehended a course of nearly four hundred years. It was beyond question throughout the whole of this period a royal castle; and was frequently occupied by the West-Saxon monarchs. Subsequent to the destruction of the heptarchy, and the union of its several kingdoms under one prince, it seems to have been usually committed to the custody of some powerful nobleman; but it still, notwithstanding, continued the *peculium* of the monarch himself. From an original document in the Cottonian Library, it appears that the great King Alfred gave some orders respecting the fortifications of Old Sarum.\* It is written in Latin, and thus rendered in Sir Richard Hoare's "Ancient Wiltshire:" † "I, Alfred, king and monarch of the English, have ordered Leofrie of Wiltunshire, not only to preserve the castle of Sarum, but to make another ditch to be defended by pallisadoes, and all who live about the said castle, as well as my other subjects, are immediately to apply to this work." ‡

Edgar, who began his reign about the middle of the tenth century, convoked a Parliament, or great Council, at Sarum, in the  
year

\* "Account of Old Sarum." Salisbury Edit. 1787, 4to. p. 42.

† Vol. I. p. 224.

‡ Old Sarum, during the time of the Saxons, was called by a variety of names, as, *Searbyrig*, *Searshyrig*, *Searcêrig*, *Seareberi*, *Sueresberi*, and *Searhyrig*, in all which terms, and chiefly in the last, says Sir Richard Hoare, "we recognize the Saxon words *Sear*, Dry, and *Byrig*, a town."—"Ancient Wiltshire," Vol. I. p. 223.

year 960. The special object of that assembly was to consult about the best mode of defence for the northern counties, against the depredations of the Danes \*. But several laws for the better government of the church, as well as of the state, appear to have been enacted at the same time. In 1003, Swein, King of Denmark, is said to have pillaged and burnt the castle of Old Sarum. We, however, rather incline to believe, from the strength of the place, and the celerity of his movements towards the coast, for he was then flying to his ships, that only a few houses in the suburbs were destroyed, and not the interior of the fortress. The injury could not have been very great; for, soon afterwards, we find that Herman established his episcopal seat here, as already noticed, p. 29. According to Godwin†, he also laid the foundation of a cathedral church at this place, but died shortly after its commencement, and left it to be completed by his successor, OSMUND, who was Lord of Say in Normandy, also Lord High Chancellor of England, and Earl of Dorset ‡. This prelate was lavish of expense, not only in the execution of the building, but likewise in the establishment of the clergy and singers.§ Indeed such seems to have been his care and assiduity in the selection of persons properly qualified for their office; and his munificence in rewarding merit, that his choir surpassed every other in the island. Moreover, to give greater dignity and permanency

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\* Brompton. Chronicon, p. 867.

† De Præsulibus, p. 336.

‡ The author of the "Account of Old Sarum," asserts that Osmund, when appointed to this see, found in the castle "no more than a Royal chapel," and plainly states that he was the *founder*, as well as the *finisher*, of the cathedral. This opinion, however, is in contradiction to the statement of William of Malmesbury, who, speaking of Herman, says "*Illic inchoata novi operis Ecclesia morte scilicet tempus dedicationis prævenit.*" There, having begun a cathedral, he died from old age before the time of its dedication. "Acc. Old Sarum, p. 36. Will. Malm. De Pontif. apud Script. Angl. Savile, p. 230.

§ Some authors state that it was much damaged by lightning the fifth day after its erection, the tower having been thrown upon the roof. *Annal. de Margan. Hist. Angl. Script. Gale et Fell. Tom. II. p. 5. 1687.*



to the church, he granted to the dean and chapter a charter in the following terms. "In the name of the holy and undivided Trinity, I Osmund, Bishop of the church of Salisbury, make known to all the faithful, as well present as to come, that to the honour of Lord Jesus Christ, of the most blessed Virgin Mary, and for the salvation of the souls of King William, and his wife Queen Matilda, and his son William, king of the English, and successor to his throne; and also for the salvation of my own soul, I have built the church of Salisbury, and constituted canons therein, and have canonically granted for ever, freely as I received, the goods of the church to them so living canonically. To wit, these towns, besides Knight's fees\*: Glemister, Aulton, Cerninster, Beminster, Netherbury, Werlington, the church of Sherborne, with the tenths of the town and other appendages, except the tenths of the monks and sepulture, the church of Bery, of St. George in Dorchester, half of the church of Mere, with a moiety of the tenths, &c.; the church of Salisbury †, with

\* The Knight's fees, were lands which Osmund held by the service of providing a knight, or soldier, for the king's aid. These, as well as the towns, were given to him by the Conqueror, with whom he is represented to have been a great favourite.

† In a note to the "*Antiquitates Sarisburienses*," it is said there was only one parish church in Old Sarum at this time, "the patronage of which is here bestowed on the Canons." This is not true; for it is clear from several ancient grants, that there were other churches besides it. One grant, by King Ina, begins thus:—"I, Ina, king, for the salvation of my soul, grant unto the church of St. James, in *Sarisbyrig*, the lands of *Totenham* for the use of the monks serving God in that church. Whoever shall presume to infringe this my munificence, let him, in the day of judgement, be placed on the left hand of Christ, and receive the sentence of damnation with the Devil and his angels."—A second grant by Ethelburga, the queen of Ina, gave "to God, and the Nuns serving God in the church of St. Mary, in *Sarisbyrig*, the lands of *Beddington*, and their appendages, &c."—And a third, by Editha, relict of king Edward, also gave "to the support of the Canons of St. Mary's church in Sarum, the lands of *Sceorstan* in Wiltshire, and those of *Torinanburn*, to the monastery of *Wharewell*, for the support of the nuns serving God there,;

with its tenths and appendages, and two hides and a half of land in the same town, and six hides and a half in Stratford, and before the gate of the Castle; the land on both sides the way for gardens and houses for the canons. Also the church of Willisford, Pottern, and Lavington, Ramsbury and Bedwin, and one mill in the said town. The church of Wanborough, with a hide and a half of land, and the land of one borderer in the same town, and one garden; besides the churches of Ferendon, Worle, Calne, Cannings, Marlborough, Blidbery, Sunnings, and ten hides of land in Rotscomb, and the church of Granham, with the tenths, appendages, and the adjuncts belonging to each. Moreover I have given a moiety of every oblation which shall be offered upon the principal altar, except the ornaments, and the whole oblations of the other altars, the sepulture, with the oblations made to the bishop when he celebrates mass; besides a moiety of gold given in the said church. And if any of the canons shall attend the bishop in the dedication of a church, he, as chaplain, shall receive part of the oblation. Further, I have granted two parts of the prebend of each deceased canon to the use of the rest; and a third part to the use of the poor during one year.”\*

This charter is dated in 1091, and was signed by the king and thirty prelates and great dignitaries. William, surnamed Rufus, confirmed it in the fourth year of his reign, as did also Henry II. at a subsequent period. The latter prince further bestowed on the cathedral “the tenths of the New-Forest in Hampshire, and of the other royal forests in Dorsetshire, Wiltshire, and Berkshire, together with stables in Windsor Forest, and wood sufficient to repair the church and houses of the canons; the toll also, and forfeitures and pleas, which Queen Matilda annexed to the market of Sarum.”.

But

there, with the rights thereto belonging, for the soul of King Edward.”—Leland says there were two parish churches in Old Sarum, one dedicated to the “*Holy Rode*, and another over the *este gate*.” There was also a parish church in the suburbs dedicated to St. John. *Lel. Itin.* Vol. III. fo. 59.

\* *Antiquitates Sarisburienses*, ex *Monasticon*, Tom. III.

But to return to Osmund: he was not merely a generous patron, and an encourager of learning, but also a man of extensive erudition; and set an example of literary industry, as well as piety, to all his contemporaries. For his strict morality, indeed, he deserves a more than ordinary share of praise, as the age in which he lived was corrupt and dissolute in the highest degree. He wrote out, and illuminated, many manuscripts with his own hand; and composed a life of St. Aldhelm, first Bishop of Sherborne, and also a particular form of church service, which was so eminently approved of, as to be received and adopted in most choirs throughout England.\* During the prelacy of this bishop several events of great general political importance appear to have taken place at Old Sarum. King William, as we are informed by the Saxon Chronicle, summoned thither all the nobles, bishops, and landholders, in the kingdom, to swear allegiance to him, and to introduce one of the most remarkable changes which our constitution has at any time undergone: we allude to the formal and full establishment of the feudal system,† an event which happened on the calends of August, in the year 1086, and was certainly as bold and politic a transaction as any that distinguishes the wary government of the Norman Conqueror. All the great land-holders  
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\* The circumstances which led to the composition of the Sarum choir-service are thus stated:—Thurstan, the Abbot of Glastonbury, whom Osmund had brought from the monastery of Caen, in Normandy, and preferred to this high abbacy, quarrelled with his monks, and insisted upon their laying aside their old service, and using that to which he had been accustomed.—The monks refusing compliance with this regulation; the Abbot armed his servants, and falling upon them in the choir, drove them behind the high altar, where they defended themselves with the benches and candlesticks. In this affray several lives were lost, which so exasperated the king, that he sent Thurstan back to Caen, and dispersed the monks to other monasteries; and Osmund, to prevent similar quarrels in future, advised and executed the arrangement of an entire new service. c

† We say the “formal and full establishment,” because feudal tenures, of a limited description existed in the time of Edward the Confessor; but they were now for the first time formally acknowledged, and the services required were greatly extended. Davenport’s Abridgement of Coke on Littleton, Cap. IV.

in the kingdom, by themselves or their representatives, surrendered their lands to the king, and received them again upon a new grant, and under special conditions of military service.\* By this measure William at once placed the country in a strong posture of defence against foreign enemies, and secured the fidelity of his subjects, by making it their interest to adhere to the new dynasty. To bind them, however, the more firmly to his government, he prevailed on the assembly to pass a law, which is yet extant, and contains the following clauses: "We enact that all freemen shall swear on their fealty, and on the sacrament, that they will be faithful to King William, their lord, both within and without their realm of England, and every where, with all fidelity, to preserve his lands and honours, and defend them against all enemies and foreigners."

On the octave of Epiphany, in the year 1095 or 1096, another great council was held at Old Sarum, by William Rufus, the son and successor of the Conqueror. In this assembly William, Earl de Owe, or de Ou, was impeached of high treason, for conspiring with Robert de Moubray, Earl of Northumberland, to deprive the king of his crown and life; and to raise Stephen, Earl of Albemarle, to the throne. The accused, as was the custom of that age, demanded a *trial by duel*, which was granted to him; but, being overcome, he was adjudged to suffer castration, to have his eyes extracted, and suffer other torture.† Both the trial and punishment sufficiently indicate the wretched and barbarous judicature which prevailed at this early period. William de Aldari, who was the king's cousin, and godfather, was likewise an accomplice in the plot, and was sentenced at the same time to be severely whipped through the streets of the city, and afterwards hanged; both which punishments were inflicted in the king's

VOL. XV.—Feb. 1813.

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presence.

\* The general terms of these tenures were, that each landholder should keep a certain number of knights, or armed men, to attend the king at all times, in proportion to the extent of his fief. Madox. "Baronia Anglica," Edit. 1741. fol.

† Simon Dunelmensis, p. 222.—Hoveden. Annal. Script. Rer. Angl. Savile. p. 465.

presence. Earl Moubrai, according to most authors, escaped the stroke of justice, by surrendering to the crown his castle of Bamberg. This statement, however, is contradicted by Hoveden, who asserts that the Earl was long blockaded in that fortress, till at last, finding himself reduced to the utmost distress, he escaped to an adjoining monastery, as a place of sanctuary ; but the king, disregarding all spiritual privileges, dragged him thence and threw him into prison, where he atoned for his crime by a solitary confinement of several years.

After the death of Bishop Osmund, which took place in 1099, ROGER succeeded to the See of Old Sarum. The first step in the rise of this prelate is reported to have been as unforeseen and extraordinary as the political career of his more advanced life. " It happened," says the author of the '*Antiquitates Sarisburienses*,' that Prince Henry, who was brother to William Rufus, and afterwards king, being out on a military expedition, turned into a certain church, situated in the suburbs of the city of Caen, and there heard mass with the rest of his company. Roger at this time served the cure with a small salary ; and, knowing the disposition of soldiers towards religion, ran the prayers over so expeditiously, that mass was ended before some thought it was well begun. Every one applauded him, and declared they never saw so dexterous a priest. Prince Henry, to humour the joke, desired him to follow the camp, with which he readily complied."

Roger, though not a man of profound erudition, possessed a strong and capacious mind. Prudent and insinuating, he soon ingratiated himself with Henry, who was induced to entrust him with the management of his household ; which, from the penurious restrictions of his brother, he was obliged to support upon a more limited allowance than the establishment of a prince seemed to require. In this capacity Roger approved himself an expert manager and economist ; for, though he displayed much more magnificence than any of his predecessors in office, he effected that object with even less expense than had before been supposed unavoidable.

Such

Such conduct did not fail to meet with the approbation and gratitude of a prince who was naturally generous, and fond of grandeur; so that no sooner was Henry seated on the English throne, than he raised Roger to the highest offices in the state; and, on the demise of Osmund, which occurred very opportunely almost immediately after his coronation, gave him the bishopric of Old Sarum. The Castle of the city was also committed to his custody, and he environed the whole with an entire new wall; and, in other respects, greatly augmented the strength of its fortifications. The cathedral he likewise embellished in the most costly style; and is further supposed to have increased the extent of its buildings, and to have bestowed on the Dean and Chapter considerable possessions.

The national events that occurred at Old Sarum during the prelacy of Roger are scarcely less important than those which happened in the time of his predecessor. King Henry held his court here for some months in the latter part of the year 1100; and Archbishop Anselm accordingly came hither, on his arrival in England, to pay his respects to the king. Henry required him to do homage and fealty, and receive investiture at his hands; but the prelate, obstinately refusing, created a warm dispute between the prince and the pope. The king, however, remained inflexible, so that the haughty priest was at length obliged to comply, and the pope compromised the matter, by consenting that ecclesiastics should do homage to the king, but that the right of investiture should be wholly in his own power\*.

Henry

\* It may perhaps be proper to define the meaning of the terms homage, fealty, and investiture. The doing of "*homage and fealty*," says Madox, "was so necessary, that lordship and tenancy could not subsist without it." Now as the bishops were temporal barons and tenants in capite, it was requisite for them to observe the form, and obey the obligation, which such a relation exacted, as their neglect of it would have loosened that system of dependence and submission to the monarch which was the very essence of feudalism. Henry was well aware of this, and determined to maintain his point. In doing homage the tenant, holding his lands between the hands of his lord, said,

Henry again established his court residence in this place at the time of Pentecost, in the year 1106: and, in 1116, he assembled here all the nobles and barons of the realm, to swear allegiance, and do homage to his son, William, as his successor to the English throne. Bishop Roger, among the rest, freely tendered his oath to this effect; and was highly instrumental in prevailing upon the assembly to grant to the king large supplies for the prosecution of his Norman wars. Neither of these circumstances, however, proved effectual in its object. Henry was unfortunate in all his continental expeditions: and his son William died without issue long before the throne became vacant. Matilda, or Maud, Henry's only surviving child, therefore became, at his death, the rightful possessor of the crown. But, unhappily for her, and for England, the treachery of Stephen, Count of Blois, a younger son of the king's sister, Adela, precluded her from her just sovereignty. This prince had been injudiciously raised by his uncle to a degree of power and dignity, altogether incompatible with the security of the lineal succession, at a time when the principles of hereditary monarchy were so little understood. Accordingly no sooner had Henry breathed his last, than Stephen determined to seat himself upon the English throne. In this object he was principally favoured by the interest and influence of Roger, whom the late king had left guardian of the realm during the absence of Maud in Anjou, and who shamefully betrayed

"I become your man from this day forward for life and limb, and for earthly honour, and I will bear faith to you for the tenement which I hold and claim to hold of you, saving the faith which to our lord the king, and to my chief lords."—In doing fealty, an oath was taken, whereas, in the case of homage, a promise only was given. The freeman swearing fealty held his right hand upon the Bible, and said thus:—"Hear you this my Lord B. that S. T. will be faithful and loyal to you, and will bear faith to you for the tenement which I claim to hold of you; and I will loyally do and acknowledge the customs and services which I ought to do to you, at the terms assigned. So help me God and his saints."—This done, the prince gave the tenant seizin of bishopric, barony, honour, abbey, or tenancy; and that delivery of seizin was called investiture." Madox. "*Baronia Anglica*," p. 269—273. Edit. 1741.

betrayed the trust he had sworn to preserve.\* It was not long, however, before the prelate had reason to repent of his conduct towards the daughter of his departed monarch and benefactor. Stephen, dreading the inconstancy of a traitor, whom the most solemn obligations had failed to bind, resolved to put it as far as possible out of his power to aid the cause of the empress. He therefore instigated a quarrel between the followers of the bishop and those of Alan, Earl of Britany, and made it a pretence for seizing the person of Roger, and commanding him to surrender his castles as an atonement for the offence: the prelate, at first, peremptorily refused; but, being threatened with an ignominious death if he persisted in his determination, he ultimately thought proper to yield compliance, and the castle of Sarum was accordingly, among others, resigned to the crown.† Stephen's policy, in checking the power of the clergy, which, under other circumstances, and with other motives, might have been praise-worthy, was, in the peculiar instance before us, an act of base ingratitude and cruelty. So strongly did it affect the mind of Roger, that he died shortly afterwards of grief:—A. D. 1139.‡

From this time till the year 1142, the bishopric of Sarum continued vacant. Stephen wished to appoint to that dignity his chancellor, Philip de Harecourt; but the Canons positively rejected him, and in that resolution they were supported by the Pope's legate, Henry, Bishop of Winchester, who, though brother to the king, was, notwithstanding, a strenuous opposer of his aggressions upon the rights of the clergy. At last JOCELINE DE BAILUL was consecrated, and presided over the diocese for forty-one years, when he retired to a Convent, and assumed the

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habit

\* The Empress, upon the death of the Emperor, Henry V married Geoffry, Count of Anjou, one of the most powerful barons of his age.

† Roger had several other Castles besides that at Old Sarum; particularly one at Devizes, and another at Sherborne, both of which are said to have been built by himself in the reign of Henry I.

‡ Hume's History of England, Vol. I. p. 472.—Carte's History of England, Vol. I. p. 524.—Will. Malm. Hist. Novell. apud Script. Rer. Angl. Savile, p. 175.



habit of a Cistercian Monk. Soon after his instalment, Old Sarum was taken possession of by the partisans of the Empress. This princess, during her possession of this place, is said to have "annexed to the market the privilege of toll, and forfeitures and pleas." In the course of the subsequent contests between her and Stephen, Sarum appears to have been sometimes occupied by one party, and sometimes by the other; and each, when obliged to abandon it, razed the fortifications, that the post might be less tenable by their antagonists.\* When Henry II. therefore, ascended the throne in 1154, he found the castle of Sarum in a dismantled state; and, in order to prevent its utter ruin, some years after expended the sum of sixty-one pounds in its repairs.† The disputes of the castellans and the clergy, which took their rise from the seizure of the castle by King Stephen, were carried to a great pitch during the prelacy of Josceline. "In the time of the civil warres," (between Stephen and Maud) says Holinshed, "the soldiers of the castle and chanoons of Old Sarum fell at Oddes, inso-much that after open brawls they felle at last to sad blows." ‡

HUBERT WALTER, the successor of Josceline, as Bishop of Sarum, was consecrated in the year 1189; and, in 1190, accompanied King Richard I. on his celebrated expedition to the Holy Land. After his return to England the monks of Canterbury elected him to succeed Fitz-Joceline in that metropolitan see. This prelate was most instrumental in levying the sum demanded by the Emperor of Germany for the ransom of Richard, when unjustly detained a prisoner in passing through the dominions of the Duke of Austria.§

On the elevation of Hubert to the See of Canterbury, HERBERT PAUPER, or POORE, was installed in the Bishopric of Sarum. During his prelacy the contentions of the "Castellanes and

\* "*Antiquitates Sarisburienses*," p. 48.

† *Mag. Rot.* 23 Hen. II.

‡ "*Chronicle of England*," &c. Vol. I. p. 97, 4to. Edit. 1807.

§ *Godwin de Præsulibus*, p. 83.

and Canons" became more vehement and serious, than at any former period. "It happened," says Holinshed, "in a rogation weeke, that the Cleargie going in solemn procession, a controversie fell betweene them about certein walkes and limits which the one side claimed and the other denied. Such also was the hot entertainment on ech part, that at the last the Castellanes espiong their time, gate between the cleargie and the towne, and so coiled them as they returned homeward, that they feared any more to gang about their bounds for the year. Heereupon the people missing their bellie-cheare (for they were woont to have banketing, at everie station, a thing commonly practiced by the religious of old wherewith to link in the commons unto them, whom any man may lead whethere he will, by the bellie; or as Latimer said, with beefe, bread, and beere) they conceived a deadly hatred against the Castellanes."\*

These acts of oppression on the part of the garrison, joined to the many other difficulties which naturally attended a situation like that of Old Sarum, determined the bishop and the canons to get the see translated to a place of greater freedom and convenience. With this view Herbert, who was a man of great sagacity, and had large temporal possessions, applied to King Richard for liberty to build a new church in the valley at some distance from the castle. The monarch readily assented, and the ground is said to have been actually fixed on, for the purpose, when the design was laid aside by the bishop, under the idea that the expense would far exceed his abilities. Herbert died in 1219, and was succeeded by his brother.

RICHARD POORE, who was then Bishop of Chichester: In the year after his instalment the dean and chapter sent special messengers to Rome, to urge the necessity of translating the church to another, and more eligible, place. The Pope, upon their representation, instituted an inquiry into the truth of the grievances complained of; and, being satisfied on that point, granted them an indulgence, in which was stated, "that forasmuch as your church is

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built

\* Holinshed's Chronicle, Vol. I. p. 97. 4to. Edit. 1807.

built within the compass of the fortifications of Sarum, it is subject to so many inconveniences and oppressions, that you cannot reside in the same without corporal peril; for being situated on a lofty place, it is, as it were, continually shaken by the collision of the winds, so that when you are celebrating the Divine offices you *cannot hear one another*, the place is so noisy; and besides, the persons resident there suffer such perpetual oppressions that they are hardly able to keep in repair the roof of the church; which is constantly torn by tempestuous winds: they are also forced to buy water at a great price; nor is there any access to the same without a *licence of the Castellan*. So that it happens that on Ash Wednesday when the Lord's Supper is administered at the time of synods and celebration of orders, and on other solemn days, the faithful being willing to visit the said church, entrance is denied them by the keepers of the castle, alleging that the fortress is in danger." \*

On the receipt of this indulgence a general convocation of the Bishop and Canons was held; and it was solemnly determined that a *new church* should be built on the site of the present cathedral at *Salisbury*. This resolution was soon carried into effect, as will be more fully noticed in the sequel; and from that time may be dated the ruin of Old Sarum; for the people, as already noticed, being strongly attached to the canons, and, no doubt, feeling a share, at least, of the same inconveniences and oppressions which occasioned the translation of the church, soon deserted their ancient habitations, and built others in the immediate vicinity of the new cathedral. Hence it happens that no historical event of importance relating to this place occurs subsequent to the period our narrative has now reached.

It will be necessary, however, to go back again to give some account of the *Governors*, or chief rulers, of the city; and of those eminent persons who are particularly connected with its history. Anterior to the Norman Conquest the castle of Sarum, and the whole fortifications, are said to have belonged to the Anglo-Saxon monarchs.

\* "Account of Old Sarum," p. 4, wherein is a translation of the whole document; also in "Antiquitates Salisburichsis, p. 69.

monarchs. At the same time here was a *Free Chapel*, governed by a dean and canons, who, like the dean and canons of Windsor, at the present day, were exempt from episcopal jurisdiction, and only subordinate to regal and metropolitan authority.\* These privileges were continued, and even enlarged, after the establishment of the See by Osmund; a circumstance which certainly contributed, in no small degree, to give importance to Old Sarum. The Norman monarchs, like their predecessors of the Saxon line, usually committed the fortress in charge to one of their chief favourites.† The person who held it originally under the Conqueror was Walter de Euereux; and to him succeeded his son, Edward, who assumed the surname of Salisbury. This Edward seems to have been a man of eminence, and is frequently mentioned in Domesday-book, but without any title of nobility. The next possessor of the castle was the celebrated Bishop Osmund; and after him Roger, who obtained a grant of it from Henry I. When Stephen seized it from that prelate, he gave it in custody to Patrick de Euereux, the grandson of Edward of Salisbury, the same who was first raised to the peerage by the title of *Earl of Salisbury*. His son, William, succeeded both to his dignity and castle. *William Longspee*, who married Ella, Countess of Salisbury, was the next governor of the castle: and his son, of the same name, having engaged in the crusades, contrary to the command of Henry III. was deprived, by that prince, of his earldom, and also of the custody of Sarum. Margaret, his daughter, wife of Henry Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, however, was soon

\* "Account of Old Sarum," p. 38.

† One of the greatest difficulties which occurs respecting Old Sarum, is that of determining how far the limits of the castle extended, i. e. whether only the citadel was so denominated, or the whole space comprehended within the exterior fortifications. William of Malmesbury seems to include the entire city, under the appellation of "*Castellum*;" and the cathedral is said to have been erected within the castle, though assuredly not in the citadel. Leland is the first author who speaks of the castle being *within* Old Sarum; all former writers, and most modern ones, call the whole work the *Castle of Sarum*.

soon after restored to blood, by the title of Countess of Salisbury; and had likewise a grant of the castle, which, after her death, was continued to her only child, Alice, who married Thomas, Earl of Lancaster. This nobleman being attainted for high treason, Edward III. seized all the lands which had been made over to him by his lady, and bestowed them on *William de Montecute*, whom at the same time he created *Earl of Salisbury*. Robert Wyvil was at that period bishop of this see; and, conceiving that he had some right to the castle, questioned the right of the earl, by virtue of a writ, called by the lawyers *Breve-de-reccto*. The parties agreed to decide their pretensions by single combat, between a champion appointed by each, and these were in actual preparation to engage, when the duel was suspended by the king's letters, and a compromise effected; by which the earl ceded his right in the castle to the bishop, for the sum of two thousand five hundred marks. It appears, however, to have been soon again resumed by the crown, and to have continued for some years a part of the king's private demesnes. Henry VI. at last bestowed it, together with the earldom of Salisbury, on Richard Nevil, Earl of Warwick, father of the celebrated Richard, called the *King Maker*. It is said to have next belonged to one of the Lords Stourton. Edward IV. afterwards gave it to Richard, Duke of Gloucester, who was advanced to the throne. From this time till the reign of Henry VIII. we meet with no particular events respecting this place. During that monarch's life Sarum was visited by John Leland, the king's antiquary and librarian, who has bequeathed us the following account:—"The cite of *Old Saresbyri* standing on an hille, is distant from the newe a mile by north-west; and is in cumpace half a mile and more. This thing hath beene auncient, and exceeding strong; but syns the building of *New Saresbyri* it went totally to ruine. Sum think that lak of water caused the inhabitantes to reliquisch the place; yet were there many wells of swete water. Sum say, that after that in tyme of civile warres that castelles and waulled townes wer kept, that the Castellanes

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of *Old Saresbyri* and the Chanons could not agre, insomuch that the Castellanes apon a tyme prohibited them cumming home from procession and rogation to re-entre the town. Whereapon the bishop and they consulting together at the last, began a chireh on his own propre soyle : and then people resortid strait to *New-Saresbyri*, and buildid ther ; and then in continuance were a great numbre of the houses pullid down and set up at *New Saresberi*. Osmund, Erle of Dorchestre, and after Bishop of Saresbyri, erected his cathedrale chireh ther in the west part of the town : and also his palace. Wherof now no token is but only a chapelle of our Lady yet standing and maintenid. Ther was a paroch of the Holy Rode beside in *Old Saresbyri* ; and another over the est gate whercof yet some tokens remayne. I do not perceve that ther were any mo gates in *Old Saresbyri* than 2, one by est and another by west. Without eche of these gates was a faire suburbe ; and yn the este suburbe was a paroch church of *St. John*, and ther is yet a chapel standinge. The ryver is a good quarter of a mile from *Old-Saresberi*, and more where it nerest unto it, and that is at *Stratford* village south from it. There hath been houses in tyme of mynd inhabid in the este suburbe of *Old Sarysberi*, but now there is not one house nether [with] in *Old Saresbyri* or without it in [habite] d. There was a right fair and strong castelle within *Old Saresbyri*, longging to the Erles of Saresbyri, especially the Longspee's. Much notable ruinous building of this castelle yet there remaynith. The diche that environid the Old Town was a very deep and strong thyngc." "Itinerary," Vol. III. p. 69.

Such is the description given of this celebrated place by one of our best antiquaries. Since his time its appearance has undergone very material alteration : scarcely a vestige of any buildings remain excepting a few fragments of foundation walls. The present appearance of *Old Sarum* is wild, dreary, and desolate : its vast ditches and ramparts are evidences of its former appropriation and military tenure. The natural feature is a gentle eminence, rising from a valley on the west, and connected with a ridge,

ridge, which extends to the east. This position is artificially raised at the centre, where the keep or citadel was placed, and which was guarded by a deep foss on the outside, and a bold rampart, or vallum within. The inclosed area is about 500 feet in diameter. On its east side was the principal entrance; where it is supposed there were bastion towers, a bridge across the foss, and other defensive works. A large area, or *ballium*, surrounded the citadel, which was again circumvallated with a bank and ditch. These inclosed the chief part of the old city; and, according to Sir Richard Hoare, measure seven furlongs, twenty-six yards in circumference, and comprise an area of twenty-seven acres and a half.\* On the outer side were the *suburbs*, literally so called, because they lay directly under the city, on the south-east, and west parts; and chiefly on the latter. The *vallu* of each of the great ditches "are nearly of equal height; the former being one hundred and six feet, and the latter one hundred feet."† Both of them are exceedingly steep on the scarp side, but more particularly the inner rampart; and both were surmounted by massive walls, some foundations of which are still visible, and shew them to have been at least twelve feet in thickness. A large mass of one of these walls, apparently of Roman workmanship, crowns the outer vallum on the north side. The space between these two works is intersected at three different places by a ditch and vallum, connecting the two circular banks, and intended for the defence of the remaining portions of the city, should an enemy have succeeded in obtaining possession of one part of it. The two entrances to this fortress, mentioned by Leland, are of very curious

\* "Ancient Wiltshire," Vol. I. p. 226.—Price calls it two thousand feet in diameter, and conceives it to have been originally formed on the extremity, or termination of a hill, from which it was separated by the removal of vast quantities of earth, and so reduced it to the circular figure we now see it. Stukeley says it is 1600 feet in diameter.—"Observations on Salisbury Cathedral," p. 3, 4.—Stukeley's *Itinerarium Curiosum*, Vol. I. p. 175.

† "Ancient Wiltshire" Ubi Supra.

curious construction, each of them passing on both sides of a remarkable mount, resembling a rude horn-work, which has a large and deep ditch and high bank, peculiar to itself. The principal one faces the east; and the other, called the *Postern-gate*, faces the west. Near the latter a spot is still pointed out where the ancient cathedral stood; but no discriminating vestiges of it are now extant. The royal apartments and chapel, as well as the great hall, are supposed to have been situated within the citadel, to which the only access was by one very narrow passage on the east. On the north-side of the large vallum, and immediately at its junction with the transverse vallum, is a *subterraneous passage*, which was discovered in the year 1795; and, on being explored, was found to extend, in a sloping direction; from the city to the outer ditch. The entrance to this passage, from above, was by a door-way nearly four feet in width; thence a covered way, about seven feet broad, and from eight to ten feet high, descends in an angle nearly parallel to the glacis of the side of the hill, to the depth of a hundred and fourteen feet. The descent was by means of steps excavated in the chalk rock, and is said to have been not much worn, which seems to indicate the secrecy of the passage. The arch over-head is circular, and manifestly artificial; and there are also evident marks of the tool on the side walls. For what purpose this passage has been formed it is difficult to conjecture: some think it led further than it can now be traced, into a concealed subterraneous apartment; and others that it was intended for a sally port; but that the design was never completed. Nearly on the opposite side of the area is a similar sinking of the ground, which may perhaps be considered as denoting the existence of another cavity similar to the one we have just described. Within the keep there may still be observed a hollow in the ground, which, according to tradition, is the spot where a well was sunk to great depth; but it is now nearly filled up. Four other wells are mentioned as having been situated in the city portion of the work, though none can now be discovered.



The BOROUGH of Old Sarum has long been a subject of popular notoriety.\* Ever since the 34th year of the reign of Edward III. this place has continued to send two members to the national councils : and in the 23d of Edward I. it was represented in Parliament. Whether this privilege, as now exercised, be derived from charter, or is a prescriptive right, does not appear from any published work : but at present the property of the borough is wholly vested in the Earl of Caledon, who purchased it of the late Lord Camelford. The burgage pieces or plots of land are traditionally said to be the sites of the last houses which remained within the limits of the borough, and amounted to ten or twelve about one hundred years back. The houses appear to have constituted part of a street, which abutted on the Roman road, immediately on the south-west side of the circumvallated city. In the general election for 1802, there were five electors assembled here, besides the bailiff, who is the returning officer.

JOHN of SALISBURY, one of the most eminent scholars of his age, was born at Old Sarum, in the early part of the eleventh century,

\* Much has been written and said about the venality, and dangerous tendency, of such a borough as Old Sarum : it has been singled out for reprobation and clamorous invective ; but the impartial political historian knows that there is as much virtue and independence in this as in many of the Cornish, and other boroughs. Though the present work is not adapted to discuss such subjects, yet it is strictly consistent with the spirit and province of topography to record local facts, and notice popular opinions respecting them. We therefore beg leave to remark, that the corruption of Parliamentary boroughs is not so much in the possessors, or purchasers of burgage-tenures, as in the needy and unprincipled persons, who thus sell their liberties and privileges. It is the idle and dissolute who first corrupt the sources of independence ; and these are the most eager to lament over the loss of that liberty and freedom which they have wickedly bartered away. The most permanent and important political reform that can be adopted must commence with the people. When these are strictly honest to themselves and to their families, they will act with patriotism ; but it is incompatible with folly and knavery to look beyond momentary gratification and selfish indulgence,

century, but the exact date is not recorded.\* He studied at Oxford under the celebrated theologians, Robert Pullen and Simon Pexiacensis; and, while yet very young, was admitted a clerk in the cathedral church of Canterbury. In this situation he attached himself first to Archbishop Theobald, and subsequently to Becket, the latter of whom he accompanied during his disgrace and banishment in France. Theobald entertained so high an idea of his integrity, that he appointed him one of the executors of his will, as appears from that document, which is preserved in the archives of the metropolitan church.

After the death of Becket, he was received into the service of Richard, his successor, in the see, who, as well as his predecessors, confided the management of all ecclesiastical concerns to his care. In 1176, the dean and canons of the cathedral of Chartres, with the approbation of Henry II. elected him Bishop of that diocese, an honour which he for some time declined, but at length was prevailed on to accept. Accordingly when Louis, the French king, had confirmed his election, he was consecrated by Maurice, Bishop of Paris, and continued in the exercise of his unsolicited dignity, till his demise on the 24th of October in the year 1181. Several of the works of this prelate have come down to our time. His book, intituled "*Policraticum sive De Nugis Curialium et Vestigiis Philosophorum*," which is particularly commended by Lipsius: "*Metalogici*," in four books; and a "Life of Becket." A Memoir of himself, together with a collection of letters, are said to be deposited in the Vatican library at Rome. Beside these, however, he wrote a "Life of Archbishop Anselm,"—"The Penitential," and some other pieces, both philosophical and historical, which have unfortunately been lost. The learning and abilities of John of Salisbury

\* Pitts, an old biographical writer, asserts, that he was born at Wilton, but this must be an error, because as he never resided in Sarum after the years of childhood, there could be no other reason for giving him the appellation of "Sarisburyensis" but the circumstance of his having been born in that ancient city,

bury are highly praised by his contemporary, Peter Blesensis; who styles him "both the eye and hand of Becket." Ieland, according to Fuller, saith, "that he seeth in him *omnem scientiæ orbem*, all the world, (or, if you will, all the circle) of learning." Bale mentions him as being among the first "who from the time of Archbishop Theodore, living five hundred years before him, endeavoured to restore the learned languages to their original purity, being a good latinist, grecian, musician, mathematician, philosopher, divine, and what not." That he was a man of sterling worth, and dignified and independent spirit, may be inferred from the circumstance, that though the steadfast friend of Becket, and much courted by Pope Eugenius, he disdained to countenance the arrogance of the former towards his sovereign, and wrote with more asperity against the pride and usurpations of the court of Rome than any author of his time. "Scribes and Pharisees," says he in his *Polyeraticum*, "sit in the church of Rome, laying intolerable burdens on men's backs. The Legates swagger as if Satan were let loose to scourge the church. They eat the sins of the people; while the true worshippers, who worship the Father in spirit and truth, and dissent from their doctrine, are condemned for schismatics and heretics."\*

STRATFORD, called STRATFORD-UNDER-THE-CASTLE, is a parish extending along the valley on the banks of the Avon, and derives its name from its position on the stream where the old Roman road crossed it: and thus was originally called *Street-ford*. The father of the great Earl of Chatham formerly resided at an old family mansion in this parish: and the latter was first sent to Parliament from the borough of Old Sarum in February 1735. Seward, who has published a view of the old manor-house, asserts, that

\* Fuller's Worthies of England, Vol. II. p. 442. 4to, "Account of Old Sarum," p. S.—Nicholson's English Historical Library, p. 111, 112, fol. Fuller quaintly says, that he has heard of some of the "Salisburies of Denbysire, who essay to assert him (Joannes Salisburyensis) to be of their family, as who would not recover so eminent a person."

lordship was born here;\* but the author of "Anecdotes of the Earl of Chatham," says he, "was born on the 15th of Nov. 1708, in the parish of St. James's Westminster."† The birth and patriotic career of such a man must ever be interesting to the historian and politician: for they must revere the statesman who was at once an honour to his birth place, to his country, and to human nature.

Great part of the church at Stratford was built by an ancestor of the late Lord Camelford. Under an old tree, near this church, is the spot where the members for Old Sarum are elected: or rather deputed to sit in Parliament.

The parochial living of Stratford is vested in the Dean and Chapter of Salisbury. The parish embraces Old Sarum, and contains a farm, or a manor called *Stratford-Deans*.

## SALISBURY,

Or NEW SARUM, is a City of peculiar interest and importance, in the topographical annals of this county and of England; and, unlike the generality of ancient towns, its origin is clearly defined by authentic record. It appears from ancient documents, and also from historical evidence, that when the religious community of Old Sarum deserted their former habitations, to avoid the oppressions and insults of the "Castellans," they fixed upon this spot as the most eligible for the erection of their new Cathedral, and for the foundation of a new City. In that selection they evinced, in a peculiar manner, their foresight and discrimination; for it may be justly said that few places in Great Britain could have been chosen better adapted for the site of a populous town than that which modern Salisbury occupies. Soil, water, and climate, with easy modes of social and commercial communication,

VOL. XV.—Feb. 1813. • • H

\* "Anecdotes of Distinguished Persons," Vol. II. p. 425, 8vo. 1798.

† Anecdotes of the Life of the Right Honourable William Pitt, Earl Chatham," 4 Vols. 8vo. 1792.

communication, are the primary objects of consideration in the establishment of a new town, and Salisbury has all these advantages in an eminent degree. Its situation is a broad vale near the union of three rivers; the Wily, the Avon, and the Bourne. The first, after its junction, with the Avon, bounds the southern side of the city, and separates it from the parishes of Britford and Harnham; the second flows from the north, and skirts the western part of Salisbury, and divides it from the parish of Fisherton; whilst, the Bourne, meandering through a valley parallel to that of the Avon, joins the main river at a place called Mill-ford, on the eastern side of the parish of St. Martin. The soil of this vale is a fine black mould, lying on a substratum of gravel, which forms a dry and firm foundation for buildings. From these peculiarities of position, it is apparent that the city is both pleasantly and eligibly seated: but these are not the only characteristics entitled to notice. For the salubrious atmosphere of the circumjacent downs must produce powerful effects in the city.

In addition to these natural advantages Salisbury is distinguished by an artificial arrangement, which is at once singular, pleasing, and useful. All the principal streets are laid out at right angles to each other, and through each is conveyed a perpetual stream, or channel of water. These water-courses are supplied from the river Avon, by means of sluices, or flood-gates, whence the stream is conducted by numerous channels, and is regulated to any given quantity. This peculiarity of position, and aquatic accommodation is, perhaps, unparalleled in this country. It is certainly highly conducive to healthfulness, and is convertible to many useful and important purposes in a manufacturing town. In one of the principal streets the water is conducted through a deep, walled channel, which receives many of the smaller streams. In some places one stream flows across another, and in every channel the current is rapid and clear. With so many rivulets, there must necessarily be many bridges, and hence it has been remarked, that Salisbury has more of the  
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latter than any city of Europe. It has been compared, in its streamlets and bridges, to Venice; and there is certainly some degree of analogy; for most of the streets, in that famed city, are supplied with artificial canals; but on a large scale.

Unable to ascertain the progressive enlargement of the city, and point out its growth, and fluctuating history at different and remote periods, we proceed to describe its present extent, and local peculiarities; to narrate a few historical events connected with the place; and then develop the annals of its noble cathedral, and of the appendages and members of that edifice.

Salisbury consists of two marked, and discriminating features: the Close and the City. The first is appropriated to, and occupied by the cathedral, the Bishops-palace, the Deanery, prebendal houses, and some handsome private dwellings, holden chiefly under the Bishop or Chapter; and comprises an area of nearly half a mile square: whilst the connected part of the city is full three quarters of a mile from north to south; and, including the street of Fisherton, is nearly of the same extent from east to west. This portion has five principal streets, running in the former direction, and five in the latter; all of which are at right angles with each other: and thus the spaces between the streets are nearly regular and uniform. Each space constitutes a square, and is occupied by a series of houses, abutting on the streets whilst the middle area is appropriated to gardens, yards, &c. By this arrangement there are scarcely any alleys or narrow lanes, which, in large towns and cities are commonly the receptacles of filth, and therefore become pernicious to life. The houses are mostly constructed of brick; but several, however, are built with timber, plaster, &c. and these are very irregular in size and shape. The chief public buildings are, the Cathedral, the Bishop's-Palace, the Council-House, the Infirmary, the Gaol, and three Churches. The three parishes within the city, of St. Edmund, St. Thomas, and St. Martin, together with the close, contain, according to the parliamentary returns of 1811, 1575 houses,

and a population of 8243 persons, being an increase, since the year 1801, of 41 houses and 575 inhabitants.\*

The site, or manor of Salisbury, even before the removal of the see, formed part of the temporalities of the Bishop, i. e. a portion of the barony of Salisbury, or of the land held of the king *in capite*.† It would also seem to have been occupied by some buildings, the habitations of citizens of Old Sarum, who had preferred a residence in the valley, though destitute of the protection of bulwarks, to the impositions and insults of the military tenants of that ancient city. Leland says “Harnham Bridge (now a suburb to Salisbury) was a *village*, long afore the erection of New Saresbyri, and there was a church of St. Martine, longging to it.”‡ Whatever may have been the state of Harnham and of New Sarum, before the erection of the present cathedral, it was this circumstance which first fixed the clergy on the spot, and drew around them a permanent community. In order to give stability to this newly established colony, the Bishop and Canons procured from King Henry the third a charter to constitute Salisbury a *free city*: to provide it with a fair, and a market, and place it on an equality with the ancient city of Winchester. By this charter, the Bishop was also empowered to amend the roads and bridges, leading to the city; to enclose the latter with a wall and a ditch, and to hold it as his proper demesne. He was also empowered to levy tallage, as often as the reigning monarch should tallage his dominions.§ This charter

was

\* The inhabitants in 1695 were 6678 in number, and in 1754, 6586. by which a decrease would appear to have taken place during the early part of the last century. Gent. Mag. Vol. XXIII. p. 341.

† This is apparent from the words of the original charter: it was further declared about a century subsequent to the establishment of the city.

‡ Leland. Itin. Vol. III. fol. 58.

§ The words of this charter, after ratifying the translation of the see, and all charters previously granted to the Bishop and Canons, ran thus: “We grant for us, and our heirs, that the place called New Sarsbury be a free city forever, enclosed with ditches as hereafter specified. and that the citizens thereof

was confirmed by Edward the First, in the thirteenth year of his reign; but, in the thirty third year of the same king, a violent dispute arose between the bishop and the citizens respecting the payment of some aid, demanded by the former, to which the latter did not consider him legally entitled. Both parties appeared

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by

thereof throughout our realm be free from toll, pontage, passage, pasture, lestage, stallage, carriage, and every other custom, for all goods, which they shall carry by land, or water throughout our realm. And we forbid under pain of forfeiture any to disturb them, their possessions, land, or servants, We also grant to the said citizens to have all the liberties and immunities through our realm which our citizens of Winchester enjoy. We grant to the said Bishop and his successors, that they may enclose the said city to prevent the danger of thieves, with sufficient ditches, and hold it forever as their own proper demesne; saving to us and our heirs the patronage of the See, with every other right which we have, and ought to have during a vacancy, as in other cathedral churches. It shall not be lawful for the citizens to give, sell, or mortgage, the burgage-houses, or tenements, without the licence and consent of the said Bishop and his successors. We also grant to the said Bishop and his successors, that for their necessities, and those of the church, they may take a tallage or reasonable aid of the said citizens, when we, or our heirs, tallage our demesnes. We grant to the said Bishop and his successors, that, for the improvement of the city, they may change and remove the roads and bridges leading to it, and make them most convenient to themselves, saving the right of others. We grant to the said Bishop and his successors, that every year forever they have one fair in the city of New Saresbery from the vigil of the assumption of the blessed Virgin, to hold till the morrow of the octaves of the said feast, and every week a market on Tuesday, with all the liberties and free customs, belonging to such fairs and markets. We command that ours, as well as foreign merchants, who are at peace with us, and who shall bring merchandise to said city, have freedom to enter, remain, or go by water, over bridges, as well as by land, and to have free ingress into our realm, and egress, without any obstruction from our officers or others, paying the usual and just customs. All the aforesaid liberties and immunities we grant to said Bishop and his successors, and to the canons and citizens of said city, so that from the said canons and citizens nothing be taken away by this charter, of the liberties granted by our predecessors, Kings of England. All the aforesaid we confirm to the said Bishops, &c. saving the liberties of our city of London. Dated at Westminster, the 30th of January in the 11th year of our reign." *Antiquitates Sarisburienses.*



by their attornies before the king in council, to plead their respective claims; and, after a full hearing, it was left to the option of the citizens to determine "whether they would, from henceforth, fully use and enjoy such liberties, and acknowledge and undergo the charges incumbent upon the same, or renounce those liberties, and thenceforth in no wise acknowledge the charge aforesaid, being for ever to be deprived of the said liberties." Their attornies for themselves, and the community, chose the alternative of losing their rights as citizens, and accordingly delivered up their charters to the King. By this act Salisbury was deprived of her dignity and rank as a city, for upwards of a year. At length the inhabitants, perceiving that ruin and dispersion would be the result of longer continuance in the state of confusion in which they were placed, by the want of their accustomed government, solicited the Bishop to intercede with the king for the restoration of their privileges. Articles of agreement were, in consequence, drawn up by deputies appointed on the part of the citizens, and Walter Harvey, Canon of Sarum, secretary to the Bishop, which being approved of, and confirmed on both sides, the King was prevailed on to return the ancient charters, and re-establish the citizens in their pristine rights.\*

These

\* The articles of agreement abovementioned, as concluded between the Bishop and citizens, are not only curious in themselves but illustrative of the history of Salisbury, and of the customs of the age in which they were framed. Their length, however, precludes us from inserting more than a very general outline of them here. They are divided into twenty eight sections, and are in substance as follows :

1. That the citizens will pay to the bishop all the rents and services due to him by the charter of Richard Poore, and will be contented with the tenements and lands thereby allotted to them, and not interfere beyond such limitation.

2. That the citizens shall chuse their own Mayor, who shall be presented to the steward or bailiff of the Lord Bishop, and sworn by them, or one of them, owning himself not to be "superior to the steward or bailiff aforesaid, but rather inferior."

3. That

These have been continued, and confirmed by two subsequent charters: one of which was granted by King James the first, and the

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other

3. That the serjeants and public ministers be likewise chosen by the commonalty at the peril of the electors, and if they, or any of them, be convicted of contempt to the Bishop, they shall be punished according to circumstances, and the commonalty be answerable for any satisfaction awarded. That there shall be two serjeants for the citizens, and that the Bishop may have a third if he chuses.

4. That the citizens shall not be compelled to do suit above twice a year, at the court of the Bishop, unless plea is held, concerning matters touching the King's peace, in which case, it shall be incumbent upon them to come, under the penalty of distraint.

5. That those pleas which, by their nature, have been accustomed to be pleaded in the Bishop's court, shall be pleaded there as they used to be.

6. Also that testaments in which tenements are bequeathed, shall be exhibited in the said court before seizin.

7. That no return of any writ be required from the bailiff or others, but only a precept.

8. That the lord Bishop shall stand charged for the King's dues paid to any receiver, who shall be deputed by the Bishop.

9. That the citizens may have any attorney they please, "but not for carrying on suits in the courts of our lord the King, without the consent of the Bishop."

10. That pleas between a stranger and an inhabitant shall be conducted in the same manner, and with the same dispatch as ought and used to be, where both parties are strangers.

11. Also that in the assize of bread, wine, and ale, right be done according to the law and custom of the kingdom.

12. Also, that all pledges for dues to the king, or bishop, be delivered immediately by the takers of the same to the Mayor, and by him exhibited at the court next following, to be appraised, if buyers are not found.

13. Also, that if for dues or rent due to the King, distress cannot be found unless under lock, then the constables shall seal up such locks, and shall afterwards open the same, in presence of the Serjeants, Aldermen, and other creditable persons, and take reasonable distresses, if such shall be found, and deliver them to the Mayor.

14. Also

other by Queen Anne. The latter is chiefly to regulate the election, and province of the Deputy-Recorder: whilst the former is only

14. Also, that when a common collection is made, the citizens shall give notice of the same to the steward or bailiff of the Bishop three days before, when, if they come, the same shall be levied with their consent, but if they fail to come, the same shall be levied by the Mayor and ministers for the time being, after this form. That there shall be four honest men chosen by the Aldermen, from each ward, of divers conditions, who shall be sworn to tax every one justly, and account for the same when required, before *three credible men*, chosen by the commonalty in presence of the steward or bailiff, or clerk of the manor, if they chuse to be present.

15. That the common seal of the city be kept under three keys, one to be kept by the Bishop.

16. That no one presume to occupy stalls in the markets, without licence of the steward or bailiff specially given.

17. That the Bishop shall supersede demanding toll in the said city, from the citizens.

18. That no one shall be put in seizin, except in full court, but the title of the demandant being there read, the demisor shall yield up to the Lord his right, and the demandant receive the same from the steward or bailiff, on oath of fidelity to the Lord, and shall be put in seizin by the Mayor and ministers.

19. That before one o'clock, no person shall buy any flesh or fish or other victuals to sell the same again, upon that or any following day, such victuals remaining to be bought by the Bishop, canons, citizens, and strangers, till that hour, under severe penalties against aggressors; and that no one shall go out to public or cross roads, to meet butchers, fishermen, or others, and buy the victuals carrying to the city. In fine that nothing shall be bought by any one, but what is necessary for his own maintenance, and that of his family. That if a servant of any Canon be convicted of such offence, then the personal punishment of the same, in honour of the church, shall be left to his master the Canon.

20. That fish brought late in the evening to be sold, shall be carried in the morning entire to the stall, where it should be sold.

21. Also, that fish brought before one <sup>6</sup> shall be carried to the stall immediately and entirely.

22. Also, that it shall be sold by him who brought it, and not by any substitute, and this after sunrise, and not before.

23. Also,

only applicable to the regulation of the Cathedral officers, their duties, powers, &c.\*

But, notwithstanding the arrangement of their differences  
above

23. Also, that if the servants of the Lord Bishop, canons, and citizens, meet together to make purchases, inferiors shall always give place to superiors, till the hour aforesaid.

24. That the assize of bread shall be given by the Mayor and bailiff, jointly when they are both present, or by either of them in absence of the other, and nothing shall be demanded, given, or received.

25. Also, for the assize of ale broken, (retailed) the delinquent shall be amerced, according to the quantity of the offence.

26. That no sergeants, or ministers, shall make collections in the markets, or extort corn or other victuals against the will of any one, but take what is offered.

27. Also, that when a husband or wife claim any tenement in the city, and the husband dies, the wife shall have her free bench thereof, as long as she lives, but if she marries, her second husband shall be obliged to demise the tenement to the right heirs; and when a husband or wife claim a tenement, and the wife dying, the husband marries a second wife, she shall, on the death of her husband, also demise such tenement unless it may be devised to her, for her life or forever by him.

28. Also that from "the date of these presents" there shall be a gild of merchants, in which shall be included all who, before the making of these presents, shall have submitted themselves to the Lord Bishop, but that all who continue in revolt, or hereafter revolt, shall be utterly separated and removed from all bargains, contracts, and merchandizes, and also from all councils and public offices, and from the commonalty.

"Antiquitates Sarisburienses," p. 259—282, where the whole deed is transcribed, also in the "Account of Old Sarum," appended to A Description of Salisbury Cathedral, p. 22—33.

\* By this deed the Bishop, the Dean, the clerk of the Bishop's court, the constable of the church, the bailiff of the liberties, the precentor, the chancellor, the archdeacon, and the treasurer of the Cathedral, together with the residentiary canons, and two persons learned in the laws, to be chosen by the Bishop, and the Dean and Chapter, were appointed Justices of the peace, within the liberty of the church of Sarum, the inclosures, site, compass, circuit and precinct, walls, and close, and the streets and dwellings there; from  
the

above mentioned, the Bishop and citizens do not seem to have continued long in concord. The pride and overbearing insolence of the canons and of their servants, and the monopoly of influence, at which they aimed in the direction of the city, could scarcely be brooked, even by the most superstitious and debased minds. On the other hand the citizens, anxious for the extension of the civil power, and eager to assert a total emancipation from ecclesiastical authority in their temporal concerns, did not hesitate to make gradual advances upon the privileges of the See. To inflame their mutual jealousy the more the doctrines of Wickliffe began to be propagated in England during the latter part of the fourteenth century, and seem to have made great progress at Salisbury. The Bishop finding his own officers totally inadequate to the task, of preventing the meetings of this sect of religionists, as they resisted by force all attempts made to dismiss them, required the assistance of the Mayor and commonalty. These, however, refused to comply with the demand; whereupon the Bishop instituted an action against them before King Richard II. and his council, who, upon hearing parties, gave judgement against the citizens, and bound them in a recognizance of 20,000*l.* to obey the decision, which declared that "the Mayor and commonalty shall aid the Bishop's officers in the execution of decrees made in the court of the Bishop; and if any violent resistance should be made in conventicles, or other unlawful meetings, then the Mayor and commonalty are to hinder such resistance."

The historical events which have occurred at Salisbury are comparatively few, and of less importance than might be expected, considering that this has been, almost from its foundation,

the place called Harnham Gate, and upon the bridge called Harnham Bridge, beneath or near the city of New Sarum; and within the Guildhall and gaol of the Bishop in the city. The Justices of the county of Wilts, or city of Sarum, not to intrude or act in the foregoing limits. No handicraft trade or mystery to be exercised within the jurisdiction and liberties of the Bishop, except one carpenter, one glazier, and one plumber, who may be ready to repair the church when required.

tion, one of the first cities in the west of England, and lies in the immediate vicinity of Clarendon, the favourite court residence of some of our most powerful and active monarchs. A parliament, or national council, was summoned here, by Edward the first, to consult on the best mode of opposing Philip of France, who had seized a part of the English dominions in Gascoigne. In this assembly the lay-nobility only were present, as the clergy, having previously refused to furnish the monarch some aid to the state, were deprived at this time of their civil privileges. The King had also confiscated their revenues; and expected, by this arbitrary act, to intimidate the barons, who had already sacrificed many lives, and much property, to gratify his ambition. Tired however, by repeated exactions, they now opposed his demands, and refused to co-operate against France. Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, and Humphrey de Bohun, Earl Marshal, and constable of England, with thirty others, proceeded to acts of open rebellion, and marched out of Salisbury at the head of their armed followers.\*

A second parliament was held here in 1328, "to inquire into the state of the realm," which was then suffering under the odious tyranny of Queen Isabel, and Roger Mortimer, whose criminal intercourse, and inhuman cruelties, have branded their names with perpetual infamy.† Mortimer, aware that it was the intention of the Earl of Lancaster to bring forward a motion of impeachment, procured an order under the great Seal, that none of the members, nor their attendants, should appear armed in the assembly. This step inspired the nobles with strong suspicions of some evil design, so that the greater part of them retired to Winchester, and left the deliberations wholly to the clergy, imagining that their sacred character would protect them against personal violence. In that idea, however, they were soon undeceived;

\* Carte. Hist. Eng. Vol. II. p. 269. Hume. Hist. Eng. Vol. III. 8vo. 1806.

† Isabel was Queen to Edward II. and conspired with Mortimer to murder her husband. See Beauties, Vol. IX.

deceived; for scarcely had they entered upon the dispatch of business, than Mortimer broke into the hall with a band of armed men, and threatened them with death if they presumed to speak, or enact any resolution, contrary to his pleasure. This violent conduct formed one of the principal subjects of accusation against him, when impeached and brought to trial by command of the king in 1330. Knyghton states that the followers of the Earl of Lancaster, and those of Mortimer, were about to engage near Salisbury, and were only prevented from coming to blows by the intercession of some others of the nobility.

*Henry Stafford, Duke of Buckingham*, by whose influence and exertions Richard the Third was advanced to the throne, perished on the scaffold in this city, in the first year of that monarch's reign. This nobleman had been highly rewarded by Richard for his services, being put in possession of the government of Wales, as well as of vast estates in England. These bounties, however, failed to retain him in the usurper's interest; for having had a conference with Margaret, countess of Richmond, he was prevailed upon to abandon his master, and to second the pretensions of young Richmond, afterwards Henry the Seventh, who was betrothed to Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of Edward the Fourth, and the legal heiress of his crown. Richard, having heard of the conspiracy, summoned Buckingham to his presence; but the Duke refused compliance; and, assembling an army of Welshmen, had reached the Severn on his way to London, when his soldiers dispersed. A messenger, in Shakespear's play of "King Richard III." thus informs his Monarch:—

"The news I have to tell your Majesty,  
Is,—that by sudden floods, and fall of waters,  
Buckingham's army is dispers'd and scatter'd;  
And he himself wander'd away alone,  
No man knows whither." •

The Duke had fled into Shropshire, but was betrayed by a former servant; was arrested and conveyed to Salisbury, which was the

the appointed place of rendezvous for the King's army. Buckingham intreated to have an interview with the Usurper; but, instead of obtaining this indulgence, he was hurried to the market place, and, without trial, was beheaded on the second day of November, by order of the King in council, after he had made a full confession of the plot, under the hope of obtaining pardon.\*

During the great rebellion in the seventeenth century, Salisbury was frequently laid under contribution by each party; but no event of particular import happened here, till near the close of Cromwell's government. At the time of the premeditated revolt, however, A. D. 1655, it is remarkable as having been the only place in England, which became the scene of active operations in favour of the house of Stuart. *Penruddock*, Grove, Jones, and several other gentlemen of Wiltshire, marched into the city, with a body of 200 horse, on the day appointed for insurrection; and, seizing the sheriffs and judges, then present at the assizes, proclaimed Charles the Second, King. Clarendon affirms that if this troop had been supported by their associates in other parts of the kingdom, the restoration of that monarch would most likely have been effected by force of arms, and not as it afterwards happily was, by the uninfluenced decision of Parliament.†

Salisbury appears to have been anciently defended on the north and north-east sides by a deep ditch, or fosse, which was constructed by the citizens, with the permission of their Bishop Simon de Gondavo, who died in the year 1315. Leland says, "This dicke was made of the Tounes men, as such tyme as Simon, Bisshop of Sarcesbyri, gave licence to the burgesses to strengthen the town with an embatelid waulle. This dicke was thoroughly caste

\* The Duke's execution forms a short scene in Shakespear's admired play of Richard the Third, in which the bard attributes the conspiracy of Buckingham, to the ingratitude of the king; though most certainly in contradiction to the decided evidence of history. Richard was no doubt an usurper; but we strongly question the common accusations against him, of cruelty and oppression.

† History of the Rebellion, p. 666. 667. Folio.



caste for the defence of the town, so far as it was not sufficiently defendid by the mayn streame of Avon. But the waulle was never begon; yet as I remembre, I saw one stone gate or 2 in the town."\* The whole extent of the fosse was rather more than four furlongs. In its course, commencing near the corner of St. Ann's Street, it intersected Winchester Street, immediately without the Old Gate, and, crossing Green-Croft, passed through Mr. Wyndham's Garden near the church of St. Edmunds; and thence continued by the upper corner of Swayne's Close, till it joined the cut at the back of Castle-Street, not far from the situation of the present turnpike. The whole of this inclosure is now obliterated.

The civil jurisdiction and government of Salisbury is vested in the corporation; which is the provincial parliament of the city. Its constitution is the original charters, whilst the laws, and decrees, made at various times, are at once binding on themselves and on the citizens. This corporate body consists of fifty-six members; viz. a Mayor, annually elected: a Recorder,\* Deputy-recorder, twenty-four Aldermen, and thirty assistants: the mayor is always elected from among the aldermen, or assistants, and according to the charter is to be sworn into office, by the Bishop sitting in his court; but, in his absence, the oath is administered by the Recorder in council. The officers of the corporation, besides those already named, are a chamberlain, and town-clerk; three serjeants at mace, two beadles, four constables, and thirteen sub-constables. Another honorary officer, of the city, established by custom, is the High-Steward. The mayor and ten of the aldermen are justices of peace, within the city. The Bishop, as lord of the manor, appoints a clerk of the indictments, and a city-bailiff.

The

\* Itinerary, Vol. III, fol. 58.

† This office has long been vested in the Earl of Radnor, whose noble seat is in the vicinity of the city: and who has evinced on many occasions much active zeal in promoting the interests and welfare of the citizens.

The present high Steward is the Earl of Pembroke, who has also a splendid seat at Wilton, in the neighbourhood of Salisbury.

The city of Salisbury is represented in Parliament by two members, who are elected by the corporation, and returned under their great Seal. In the 23d year of Edward the first's reign, Salisbury was summoned to send two burgesses to the national councils, and from that time it has always been represented. One of the members is generally selected from among the citizens, and the other has been, ever since the year 1741, one of the Bouverie family.

Salisbury has long been noted for its *cutlery* goods; and many fine and curious articles are often manufactured here. In the articles of scissars, knives, and razors, the workmen of this city, are justly famed. Many persons are also employed in the manufacture of flannels, and of fancy woollens. :

The *Markets* and *Fairs* of the city are numerous, and much frequented: the former are held twice every week, for various articles of merchandize, and all sorts of provisions. Leland tells us that, "the market of Saresbyri is well servid of esch; but *far better of fisch*, for a great [part] of the principal fisch that is taken from Tamar to Hampton resortith to this town,"\* This is certainly a very singular circumstance, considering the inland position of Salisbury, and that it had no navigable communication with any part of the coast.† That fish, however, were plentiful at this city, at a very early period, is evident from the frequent mention of them in old writings. Every alternate Tuesday there is at this city one of the largest markets for cattle in the kingdom, besides four fairs annually. The market-place is a spacious open square near the centre of the city, and is "well watered with a renning strenelet."

Among the *public buildings* of the city, not included in the  
Close,

\* Itin. Vol. III. fol. 57. The Tamar, here named, is presumed to be the great river at Plymouth; and Hampton, is the modern town of South-hampton.

† An act of Parliament was passed in Charles the Second's time, to make the river Avon navigable from this city to Christ church; but this has never been effected.

Close, the **NEW COUNCIL HOUSE**, situated at the south-east corner of the market-place is the most conspicuous. It was commenced in 1788, under the authority of an act of Parliament, and finished Sept. 1795, at the sole expense of the Earl of Radnor, to whose munificence and public spirit Salisbury is indebted for several other valuable improvements. The old Council-House was burnt down in the year 1780; but the pictures, charters, furniture, &c. were rescued from the flames. This building consisted mostly of timber, and was placed near the south-eastern corner of the market-place, contiguous to which was the ancient Guildhall. This was chiefly appropriated to the Bishop's offices. Being in a decayed state at the time of the above fire, it was deemed adviseable to take it down with some contiguous houses; and on the same site was erected the present council-house, which is applied both to the business of the corporation, and of the Bishop; also to certain official business of the county. It was executed under the superintendence of William Pilkington, Esq. architect, from a design by the late Sir Robert Taylor. This building is constructed of white brick, with the angles of each front ornamented with rustic work in stone. The principal front faces the north, where the ascent to the door is by a semi-circular flight of steps, beneath a recessed portico, supported by four columns of the Doric order. Over these is an entablature, with the following inscription, to commemorate the founder and donor :

ERECTED for the use of the Mayor and commonalty of this city, in the exercise of their corporate functions, in the maintenance of municipal order and authority, and in the administration of public justice, by JACOB, EARL of RADNOR, the Recorder, 1794.

All the apartments in this building are on one floor, and consist of two courts, a council room, a grand jury room, rooms for the different officers of the corporation, a waiting room, and a vestibule. The courts of law occupy the left wing, and the council room that on the right. Each of the former is entered  
 • by

by a grand Doric portico on the west front ; that which is appropriated to the Bishop being distinguished by a mitre cut in stone over the door. Here the Bishop holds his courts leet and baron, and also his court of record for pleas. In the other court room are held the assizes, and the sessions of the peace for the city, county, and close. The council room, in which the corporation meet for the dispatch of public business, and where all the city entertainments are given, is seventy feet long and twenty-four broad, and is fitted up in a handsome style. The Mayor's chair, carved in mahogany, was presented to the corporation by the Hon. W. H. Bouverie, when one of the representatives of the city. There are also in this room three portraits. One is a whole length of QUEEN ANNE, executed by Dahl, and the other two, half lengths of THE EARL OF RADNOR, and WILLIAM HUSSEY, Esq. M. P. painted by Hoppner. Lord Radnor appears in his robes as recorder, and Mr. Hussey is represented as holding in his hand a scroll, with the memorable resolution of the House of Commons, which asserted "*that the influence of the crown had increased, was increasing, and ought to be diminished.*" In the grand jury room, where the justices also usually hold their meetings, are original portraits of other benefactors to the city. Among these appear JAMES I. ; JOHN DUKE of SOMERSET ; and SIR THOMAS WHITE, the founder of St. John's College in Oxford.\*

VOL. XV. April 1813.

I

The

\* The memory of Sir THOMAS WHITE is justly held in high veneration ; for we believe few examples will be found on record of more distinguished benevolence and liberality, than he has afforded. This gentleman was born at Reading in 1492, and by his assiduity and integrity raised himself from a comparatively low station, to be one of the wealthiest merchants of London. He was Lord Mayor of that city at the commencement of the reign of Queen Mary, and behaved himself with such prudence and vigilance during Wyatt's rebellion, that his sovereign conferred upon him the honour of knighthood. The donations of Sir Thomas were not merely bequests at his death ; but consisted of large sums of money laid out in acts of public and private beneficence, and for the advantage and improvement of his fellow countrymen.

The PARISH CHURCHES of Salisbury, though not particularly distinguishable, either for their antiquity, or for architectural excellence, claim some notice and description. There are three, respectively dedicated to St. Martin, St. Thomas, and St. Edmund. *St. Martin's Church*, placed on an eminence, at the eastern extremity of the city, is said by Leland, to have been built to supply the place of another dedicated to the same saint, at Harnham. That useful traveller, after mentioning St. Nicholas's Hospital, observes, "and on the north side of this hospitale is an old barre, where in tymes past was a paroch church of St. Martine. This church was prophaned, and another new made in Sarsebyri for it, bering yet the name of St. Martine. The cause of the translation was because it (stood) exceeding low and cold, and the ryver at rages came into it." The author of the "*Antiquitates*

men, while he was yet in the meridian of life. Besides founding and endowing St. John's College, he gave 2000*l.* to the city of Bristol to be laid out in lands of 120*l.* of yearly value;" and to raise the sum of 2000*l.* of which 800*l.* is to be lent in sums of 50*l.* each, to 16 young clothiers for ten years," and after that "the sum of 104*l.* was to be lent by the city to 23 other cities and towns in rotation; the 100*l.* to be lent to four poor young men who were clothiers; and the surplus of 4*l.* to discharge the necessary expenses." Salisbury is one of the cities and towns which continue to share this bounty. Sir Thomas further gave the sum of 2000*l.* to the town of Leicester also to be laid out in land, and lent in sums of 40*l.* and 50*l.* to tradesmen who are freemen of Leicester," and the sum of 1000*l.* to the corporation of Coventry, to give a certain sum annually to 12 poor men, and 40*l.* to industrious young men of Coventry, to enable them to commence trade. After 30 years, the towns of Northampton, Leicester, Nottingham, and Warwick, were alternately to have the like sum for the same purpose. All these donations are now prodigiously increased in value. That to Bristol is not less than twenty times its original amount.

"History and Antiquities of Reading," by the Rev. Charles Coates, LL. B. 1 vol. 4to. London, 1802. There are portraits of Sir Thomas at St. John's College, Oxford; at Northampton; and at Coventry.

\* Itinerary, Vol. III. p. 68. Leland mentions the same cause for its removal, p. 58, of the third volume, and Holinshed, in his "*Chronicle*," Vol. I. has similar remarks.

lignitates Sarisburienses" contends, however, that the church now under consideration, "was never altered, as to situation, from its first erection; but continued where it at present is," p. 90. Leland's authority is most satisfactory: but neither he nor any subsequent writer has informed us when the translation took place, or when the present edifice was founded. It consists of a nave, two aisles, a chancel, and a tower, at the west end, supporting a spire. Within the church are some monuments; the altar-piece, and other parts of the church, are "beautified," as the churchwardens commonly term it, with painted panels, scroll-work, and carving from the cathedral. \* There is a large marble monument, decorated with Urns, Cupids, &c. to the memory of BENNET SWAINE, Esq. of Milford, who died July 10, 1746, aged fifty-two. There are several slabs inscribed with the name of *Ludlow*, probably descendants of Sir Edmund Ludlow, the noted Parliamentary Colonel of Maiden Bradley. In the chancel is a monument of rather curious design, dated 1632, to the memory of "*Johannis Sebestianus*," a carpenter of the city, who bequeathed to the hospital of Salisbury, 100*l.* for ever, to the "Trenety fortye pounds," and to the "carpenters XXIV.*l.*"

ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, near the centre of the city, is generally said to have been built by Bishop Bingham, about the year 1240, and dedicated by him to St. Thomas à Becket, in honour of the martyrdom of that bold and zealous advocate for ecclesiastical independence and supremacy. This, however, we presume must allude to some edifice of prior erection, to the present, as from the style of its architecture it is evidently of much later date than any period of the thirteenth century. It is a large and beautiful pile, and consists of a spacious nave, two side aisles, three chancels, and a vestry-room, with a tower at the

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south-

\* Many repairs and alterations were made in the cathedral during the prelacy of Bishop Barrington; and among these was the removal of some very gaudy incongruous paintings and carvings, which were more analogous to a theatre, or ball room, than to a cathedral, or even to a parish church.

south-western angle. The eastern portion of this structure is of a different character to the western part, and the clerestory windows have flat, or squared tops: all the other windows are of large proportions with pointed arches, and ornamented mullions and tracery. On the southern side of the tower are two niches, with statues, said to represent St. Thomas à Becket, and the Virgin Mary with a child. The interior of this church is spacious, and is fitted up with pews and galleries. Within this building the mayor, aldermen, and other officers of the corporation, are provided with handsome seats. Over the altar is a large painting of the Transfiguration, executed by Douglas Guest, in the year 1810. Within this church are some large and curious monuments: some of which commemorate different persons of the *Eyre family*, of New-House near Downton. One of these is to the memory of the Right Honourable Sir ROBERT EYRE, who was Lord Chief Baron of his Majesty's Exchequer, and afterwards Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, a governor of the Charter House, and a privy counsellor. He died on the 28th of August, 1735\*. His son, SAMUEL EYRE, was also interred here. He was a Doctor of Laws, and died in 1742, aged 45.

Between two columns in the chancel, before the altar, is a large plain altar-tomb, without either date or inscription. It has been regarded by some, as belonging to the *Duke of Buckingham*, whose melancholy, but merited fate, we have already described †. By others, however, it is assigned with great probability to some individual of the family of the Eyres.

Near this tomb is the monument of THOMAS-EYRE EYRE, Esq.  
Alderman

\* It appears that different persons of this family have held the office of judge, and have been also advanced to other dignified stations in the state. *Samuel Eyre*, the father of Sir Robert, was a judge, and was first interred in the parish church at Lancaster, (where is a fine bust of him, and a large marble monument to his memory,) but his corps was afterwards removed to Salisbury. See *Beauties of England*, Vol. IX. p. 63.

† Vide ante, p. 108.

Alderman of the city, and his wife; and immediately opposite to it is another in honour of his son CHRISTOPHER EYRE\*, who founded the alms-house near Winchester Gate, and gave a weekly lecture in the parish for ever, which continues to be delivered on Thursdays. Both these tombs were erected by the wife of Christopher, as appears by the inscription on the latter. On the former are placed the effigies of a man and woman, with fifteen children in a kneeling posture beside them.

At the time of its erection St. Thomas's church was only a chapel of ease to the cathedral, but it was made parochial very soon after that event. The living is now a perpetual curacy in the patronage of the dean and chapter of Sarum.

ST. EDMUND'S CHURCH, at the northern extremity of the city, was formerly collegiate †, and was founded by Walter de la Wyle, Bishop of Sarum in the year 1268. The present church, however, is of much later erection, and is a regular uniform building; consisting of a nave, two aisles, a chancel, and a tower at the west end. Five pointed arches separate the nave from the aisles: the whole building appears to have been built at one time,

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as

\* This gentleman was buried in St. Stephen's Church, London.

† This college was originally founded for a provost, and twelve secular canons. How long it continued in this state, or what alterations it progressively underwent, is not developed; but on the dissolution of monasteries by King Henry VIII. it was seized by that monarch, and granted by him to William St. Barbe, to be holden as part of his manor of Ludgershall, by fealty only, in free soccage, and not in capite, for all rents, services, and demands. This person, though a layman, was constituted provost of the college, by the terms of the grant. In 1549, the whole was transferred to John Beccingham, who sold it in 1576, to Giles Estcourt, a descendant of whom sold it in 1660, to Sir Wadham Wyndham, Knt. and the whole is now the property of H. P. Wyndham, Esq. who has been one of the representatives for Wiltshire in different Parliaments. An engraving of the conventual seal of this college is printed in Leland's Collectanea, Vol. VI. p. 283. It represents a bishop seated beneath a richly ornamented canopy: and under that is another plain niche, with a priest kneeling. An inscription, with two shields charged with armorial insignia, are shewn, on the seal.



as the windows display an uniformity of arch and ornament. Over the door-way, at the western entrance, is the following inscription, which at once commemorates an extraordinary event, and the superstition of the age when it occurred:

“ The Lord did marvellously preserve a great congregation of his people from the fall of the tower in this place upon the sabbath-day, being June 26, 1653:—Praise him O yee children.”

The pavement of the church displays many flat stones which have formerly been ornamented with inlaid brasses, but these have been pilfered. In one of the southern windows was a series of scripture-stories in painted, or stained glass, representing the Deity occupied in the six days' work of the creation: and on the seventh, displayed, in a sleeping posture, as if “ resting from his labour.” In delineating these memorable events, the artist, or labourer, as he may more properly be called, made strange confusion and blunders, in chronology: for instance, he represented the sun and moon as created on the third day, instead of on the fourth: man on the fifth, instead of the sixth, &c. &c. Either these absurdities, or the impiety of preserving “ painted images,” provoked the indignation of Henry Sherfield, Esq. recorder of the city, and he valiantly shattered the window to pieces. The bishop, however, summoned him to the Star-Chamber in Feb. 1632, and made him pay a fine of 500*l.* for the offence\*.

The interior of the church contains several mural, and other monuments: and beneath the chancel is a vault, appropriated to Sir Wadham Wyndham, and his descendants.

On the east side of the church-yard is a large brick mansion, still

\* This was a singular occurrence: the whole case, with the arguments on both sides, was published in an octavo volume, 1717. “ Sherfield acted, with unwarrantable impetuosity, and was punished with unparalleled rigour. A map (as it is called) of this window in its proper colours, and with the marks of the defacing, was exhibited by Sherfield, on the trial.” Gough's *British Topography*, Vol. II. p. 365.

still retaining the name of the college, and belonging to Henry Penruddoch Wyndham, Esq. This gentleman demands a tribute of respect in this place, because he has evinced, not only a predilection for topographical and antiquarian pursuits, but an intimate acquaintance with those branches of literature. He is author of a "Gentleman's Tour in Monmouthshire," &c. also of a translation of Domesday-book, Wiltshire; and "A Picture of the Isle of Wight;" in all of which we perceive traits of the mild and candid gentleman, with the intelligent and discriminating antiquary. His library, and other apartments, display several valuable specimens of literature, and relics of ancient times. In one part of the gardens, is a fragment of architecture of rather peculiar character. It is a quadrangular piece, consisting of four piers, with four pointed arches, surmounted by a central steeple, or large pinnacle, with other puffed pinnacles at the angles. This building formerly constituted a small porch to the cathedral church, and was attached to the northern transept; but was removed to its present site when the great alterations were made in that church. It has been absurdly pronounced "to be of great antiquity, and probably brought from Old Sarum." Whereby it is implied to be of older date than the cathedral; whereas the style of the arches, and ornaments, are evidently of posterior age to that handsome fabric. In making some alterations in these gardens, in the year 1771, the bones of several human bodies, with fragments of shields, pikes, and other military relics, were discovered. Mr. Wyndham supposes them to have been left here in the year 552, when a severe battle was fought in this neighbourhood by Kenric, or Cynric, King of the West Saxons and the Britons, when the former was victorious, and immediately obtained possession of Old Sarum. See before, p. 12.

#### MONASTIC FOUNDATIONS, HOSPITALS, &c.

Concerning the ancient monastic establishments of Salisbury, much dubiety and contradiction prevail in the writings of our



Bridge." \* Speed ascribes the foundation of this convent to Edward I. and Robert Kilwardy, Archbishop of Canterbury, from the year 1272 to 1278; but Godwin says it was wholly built and endowed by the latter †. Mary, Countess of Norfolk, is also mentioned as a co-founder; though most erroneously, for that lady did not live till the time of Edward II; and then only instituted "the chantry of six priests and fraternity of our Lady, St. Ann, and All Saints, within the mansion of these Friars ‡." At the Dissolution, the site was granted to John Pollard and William Byrte. All vestiges of the buildings are now effaced.

*St. Nicholas Hospital* is situated between the south wall of the Close, and the Bridge of Harnham, almost adjoining the latter. Leland tells us that, "Richard Poure, Bishop of Saresbyri, and first erecter of the cathedral chirche of New Saresbyri, foundid the hospital of S. Nicolas hard by Harnham Bridge, instituting a master, VIII. pore wimen, and 4 pore men in it, endowing the house with landes." §. Tanner, however, thinks it was only begun by him, and chiefly carried on and endowed by his successor, Bishop Bingham, because in the ordination of the hospital under the date 1245, "he is set forth almost as sole founder," ||. The author of the "*Antiquitates Sarisburienses*," on the other hand, deprives both these prelates of the honour of its foundation, and affirms, on the authority of a manuscript written by one of the masters in the reign of James I. that its actual

\* Leland's Itinerary, Vol. III. fol. 58.

† "*De Præsulibus*," p. 97. The author of the *Magna Britannia* says it was founded by King Edward, "by the care and direction of Robert Kilwardy." Wilt. p. 192.

‡ Tanner's Notitia. Dugd. Baron. Vol. II. p. 64.

§ Itinerary, Vol. III. fol. 67. In another part of the same work Leland adds, "There is an Hospital in Saresbyri near the College of the Scholars de Vaulx, and is, as I remember, dedicated to S. Nicolas.—Vol. IV. fol. 47. His words, in the Collectanea, are "*Salisbury Hospitale,—Ricardus Poore episcopus Sarum primus fundator, qui obiit H. 3.*" Vol. I. p. 104.

|| Tanner. Notit. Wiltshire.

actual founder was Ella, consort of William Longspée, Earl of Salisbury. \* At the era of the Dissolution this hospital was among the fortunate few, which escaped the rapacity and reforming zeal of Henry VIII.; but Queen Elizabeth granted it away by patent. The Earl of Pembroke afterwards purchased it from the patentees, and prevailed upon King James to restore it by a new charter, dated the 3d of April, 1610. During the period of the commonwealth the whole revenues of this house were conveyed to the Corporation, by the Protector Cromwell, by way of compensation for the sum of 3000l. he had exacted from the city, as the price of retaining its royal privileges. These, however, have since been in part restored; and the hospital now has a master, and supports twelve poor persons, six men, and the same number of women, eleven of whom are appointed by the master, and one by the dean and chapter.

On the opposite side of the road from this hospital stand the ruins of the ancient *College of Vaux*, or *Vaulx*, which was founded by Bishop Egidius, in the year 1260. "Egidius, Bishop of Saresbyri, caull'd Britport, because he was born at Britport in Dorsetshir. This Egidius made the College of *Vaulx* for scholars, betwixt the palace waulle and Harnam-bridge. Part of these scholars remaine yn in the college at Saresbyri, and have 2 chapeleyns to serve the chirch ther being dedicate to S. Nicholas: the residew study at Oxford. The scholars at Vaulx be bound to

\* Antiq. Sarisbur. p. 86—7. where is a copy of a charter by Ella, in which she grants to the hospital all her land in the south close of Bentley Wood, which remained to her after the gift that she made to John Memanis; and moreover, "giving to the said hospital, 60 chattels, horses, and oxen, with their incomes, and 12 horses and mares, 60 hogs, and 300 sheep for ever, freely and quietly to be possessed in the pasture in all places where the aforesaid John of Memanis, William of Nevil, and Allan of Boterels, persons of West Dean, have commons with me, or me with them; moreover, the hospital of St. Nicholas, Richard, Bishop of Sarum, and his successors, shall have and possess all the premises, as of pure and free alms freely and quietly from all services and secular exactions." MS. Biggs in possession of the master of the hospital.

to celebrate the anniversary of Giles, their founder, at the parish church at Britport, where he was borne."\* The establishment of this college, according to Tanner, was occasioned by the students of Oxford resorting to Salisbury in great numbers, when that University became embroiled in some serious disputes with Otho, the Pope's legate.† Other reasons, however, have been assigned for their removal very different from this, and from each other.‡ But whatever may have been its source, it seems certain that it was not of long duration; neither did it produce much benefit to Salisbury, for the college began to decline as soon as the rebellious spirits, who had provoked the secession, had passed away. Few particulars of the history of this institution, besides those mentioned by Leland, are known; and, at the Reformation, we find it a sort of appendage to St. Nicholas Hospital, both being then under the government of one Custos. A considerable portion of its estates were at this time transferred to the hospital. At present all the buildings of this college are in ruins, except

\* Leland. Itin. Vol. III. fol. 67.

† Tanner's Notitia. Salisbury, ex Hist. et Antiq. Ox. Vol. I. p. 91.

‡ Stow, in his History of England, gives the following account of this matter, which is somewhat curious:—"A little before the battle of Lewes, and about the year 1255, Prince Edward, son to Henry III. after his return from Paris, about Lent took his journey towards the marches of Wales, and, passing by Oxford, the burghers shut their gates against him, so that he was obliged to lie at King's Hall in the suburbs. The scholars of Oxford finding themselves shut within the town, break up the gate which leadeth towards Beaumont, for which deed the mayor sent some of them to prison. Not long after, while the scholars were at dinner, the mayor, at the head of the commonalty, with banners displayed, thought to have spoiled the clerks e'er they were aware; but the scholars, taking the alarm, got together, and with bows and arrows, and other weapons, slew and wounded the burghers and commons, broke up many houses, spoiling the goods, and set on fire the houses of the two portreeves (William Spicer and Geoffrey Henkley,) on the south side of the town. Moreover, because the mayor (Nicholas Kingston) was a vintner, they brake up the vintry, and drank and spoiled all the wines; for which fact the king caused the clerks and scholars to be banished the University."

except the church, which has been partly fitted up as a chapel to the same, and partly converted into a private residence for the accommodation of the master, who still enjoys the ancient revenues annexed to the wardenship of the collegiate establishment.\*

A *College dedicated to St. Edith*, at Salisbury, is mentioned in the *Magna Britannia*, and also by Speed and Dugdale; but Tanner seems to consider this institution as identified with the College of St. Edmund's.

An *Hospital* in honour of *St. Michael*, or *St. Migell*, is also stated in the same authorities to be distinct, from that of St. Nicholas. No such house, however, is noticed by Tanner. Indeed there seems little reason to doubt but its mention has originated solely in mistake.

An *Hospital*, dedicated to *St. John*, stood in the suburbs on the road from the city to the castle; but no incidents of its history are upon record till the 26th year of Henry VIII. when it appears to have been valued at 2l. 6s. 8d. per annum.\* Some remains of a monastic building are seen incorporated with the houses on the east side of Castle-street.

*Trinity Hospital* was founded and endowed by John Chaundeler in the 17th year of the reign of Richard II. The object of its institution at that period was the reception and support of "sick and weak poor persons." This hospital does not appear in any "valuation" made by order of Henry VIII.; but it is yet in existence, and under the management and patronage of the mayor and common-council, who appoint annually one of their own body (usually the mayor) to be master. It now affords an asylum for twelve poor persons, each of whom are allowed two shillings and ten-pence per week, besides several other advantages.

\* A large folio ledger book, formerly belonging to this College, and now in the possession of Mr. Wyndham, concludes with the following note: "Istum librum fieri fecit M. Simon Houchyns socius Collegii Vallis Scholarum Sarum sumptibus suis propriis in quo continentur copie munimentorum pertinentium ad dictum collegium prout patebit per lecturam." This Simon Houchyns appears to have been a fellow about the year 1380.

† Tanner. Notit.

tages. Mr. Henry Fox, of Foxley, an ancestor of the present Lord Holland, was a great benefactor to this hospital.

*Bricket's Hospital* was founded in the year 1519, for six poor widows, each of whom is allowed two shillings per week. There is a legacy to this hospital of three pounds, payable every May-day. The mayor for the time being is patron, and has the filling up of all vacancies that may occur during his mayoralty.

*Eyre's Hospital* was erected and endowed in 1617, for the accommodation of six men and their wives, who receive two shillings weekly.

*Bleckyndon's Hospital* was founded in the year 1683, for six poor women, who are paid two shillings per week each. This institution is committed to the management of six gentlemen of Salisbury, as trustees.

*Taylor's Hospital*, founded in 1698 for six men, is placed under the patronage and direction of the Corporation. Each individual is paid two shillings and ten-pence weekly.

*Froud's Hospital* was erected in the year 1750, for the benefit of six men, and an equal number of women, every one of whom receives three shillings and six-pence per week. The trustees are six gentlemen, inhabitants of the city.

Besides these Hospitals, there are various *Alms-houses* in Salisbury, erected and endowed for the use of the poor. In Culverstreet are six tenements, said to be the gift of Bishop Poore; and in St. Ann's-street are three houses, the legacy of Mr. Sutton. Twenty houses in Bedmin street were a donation by Mrs. Marks; and William Hussey, Esq. M. P. before-mentioned, gave fifteen tenements in Castle-street.

The *Infirmery* stands near Fisherton-bridge, and is a large brick building, of commodious internal arrangement, but not remarkable for architectural elegance. This institution is indebted for its origin to the munificence of the late Lord Feversham, who bequeathed the sum of 500l. to the first charity of a similar kind which should be set on foot within the county of Wilts. His benevolent purpose having been liberally encouraged by the nobility



lity and gentry, a large sum of money was soon collected, and the present fabric built in 1766. The benefactions, subscriptions, legacies, and other charitable donations, during the thirty-seven years, from that period to the 31st of August 1803, amounted to 44,608l. 4s. 11d.; and the number of patients, In and Out, received within the same time, to 25,303, viz. 11,760 In-Patients, and 13,443 Out-Patients.

The *County Gaol*, near the infirmary, is an edifice possessing no features which can entitle it to particular description in a popular work. The same observation is equally applicable to the *Assembly and Concert Rooms*, as well as to the *Theatre*. There is a concert and an assembly every alternate Thursday during winter; and concerts are held once a month throughout summer.

In former times there were several *Stone-Crosses* in Salisbury, though only one of them, called the *Poultry-Cross*, now remains. Mr. Wansley notices the following: "the Caese-Cross, Bernard's-Cross, and the Cross before the western door of the Cathedral." *Archæologia*, Vol. IX. p. 371. This structure stands near the entrance to the market-place on the south, and derives its present appellation from the poultry and vegetable markets being kept under and near it. Mr. Wansley supposes it to have been erected by Bishop Ergham, towards the close of the fourteenth century, for John de Montacute, nephew to the then Earl of Salisbury, to do penance before, every Friday, by kneeling in his shirt only, as a punishment for his zealous adherence to the opinions of Wyckliffe.\* At present this cross is in an imperfect and mutilated state; but, judging from the style of its lower portions, we may pronounce it to have been once a very beautiful specimen of archi-

\* This punishment is described in Fox's Book of Martyrs; but Walsingham, who wrote the History of King Richard II. and was a monk of St. Alban's, affirms, that the person forced to performing his penance was one Lawrence, of St. Martin's, near Salisbury, and not any of the Montacutes. We, however, incline to the opinion of Mr. Wansley, as we find the earl characterized by Dugdale as "one of the chief of the sect called Lollards, and the greatest fanatic of them all;" and it is well known that Ergham bore him great hatred for thwarting his proceedings against the reformer himself.

architecture. It is of an hexagonal form; and consists of six buttress-piers, with six arches; and over the key-stone of each arch is half of a niche, which it seems was intended for a statue. In the centre is a pillar, square at the bottom, but cut towards the top into six sides, said to have formerly had an inscription upon each, now completely obliterated. Round the column runs a sort of band, forming the base of its higher division, on which are sculptured, in bold relief, six demi-angels bending forward, and carrying blank shields.

The *Grammar School* of this city is of royal foundation, and is at present in a very flourishing condition. Many individuals, distinguished in after life in the sphere of politics or literature, have acquired the rudiments of their knowledge here. Among these was the celebrated Mr. Addison. *Godolphin's Charity School* is liberally endowed for the maintenance and education of eight orphan young ladies. In the *Bishop's School* twenty boys and girls are clothed and educated at the charge of the see; and in each parish is a *Sunday School*, under the patronage of the minister. There are also many private seminaries of great respectability in Salisbury.

The CLOSE, CATHEDRAL, BISHOP'S PALACE, &c. are all ecclesiastical property, and not only of distinct character and peculiarity, but are separated from the civil and trading part of the city by a lofty wall on the east and south sides. Leland mentions this boundary, and specifies other objects belonging to the Close in the following terms: "The great and large embatelid waulle of the palace having 3 gates to entre into it thus namyd: the Close-gate as principale by north ynto the town. Sainct Annes gate by est. And Harnham gate by south toward Harnham bridge. The Close waulle was never ful finishid, as in one place evidently apperith. I redde that in Bishop Roger's dayes, as I remembre, a convention was betwixt hym and the canons of *Saresbyri de Muro clausi*."\*

Among

Among the numerous buildings erected within this area, the CATHEDRAL CHURCH excites a peculiar degree of interest, not only because it exhibits a noble specimen of ancient architecture, but because it also constituted the germ whence the city itself sprung into existence, and derived its subsequent dignity and importance. It seems highly proper, therefore, that we should detail, at some length, the history of this edifice, and of the see with which it is connected; and, in so doing, we shall continue a similar mode of narrative to that already adopted in our previous account of the cathedral and of the bishops of Old Sarum.

No sooner, as we have already stated, had Bishop POORE received the indulgence of Pope Honorius, and the permission of King Henry for the removal of the see, than he resolved to carry the plan into execution.\* With this view he summoned a general convocation of the canons, who, either by themselves or by their proctors, agreed that the church should be immediately translated, and bound themselves to pay certain sums annually during seven years, in proportion to the value of their prebendal estates, to defray the expense of erecting the new cathedral. Accordingly, A. D. 1219, a plot of ground was fixed on, and marked out for the intended purpose; and, in the same year, a wooden chapel was very soon constructed, in which the bishop celebrated Divine service, and consecrated a cemetery.† On the 12th of August

\* Vide ante, p. 88.

† According to the author of "The History and Antiquities of the Cathedral Church of Salisbury," and to tradition, Bishop Poore consulted frequently with the Abbess of Wilton about the purchase of some ground belonging to that convent for the site of the new cathedral; but being frustrated in that object, the Virgin Mary is said to have advised him to build a church, and dedicate it to her, in a place called "*Merrifield*," which the bishop was unable to find out, till he accidentally overheard one of the soldiers of the garrison mention such a place to one of his comrades. This story was made the subject of the following humorous stanzas by Dr. Pope, who wrote "The Old Man's wish," and was a great favourite with Bishop Ward.

August the canons again assembled by special appointment, and unanimously decreed that the translation from Old Sarum should take place on the feast of All Souls next thereafter. At this meeting preachers were nominated to proceed to different parts of the country, to solicit the contributions of the pious towards the projected undertaking. It was likewise ordained that "the heirs of the first builders should receive two parts of the value of what should be built, the third part being yielded for the land; the collation and appointment of the houses, after the first sale of the vacant houses, to be left to the bishop; but the family

VOL. XV.—April, 1813.

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"ONE time as the prelate lay on his down-bed,  
Re-cruiting his spirits with rest,  
There appeared, as 'tis said, a beautiful maid,  
With her own dear babe at her breast.

To him thus she spoke, (the day was scarce broke,  
And his eyes yet to slumber did yield,)  
'Go build me a church without any delay,  
Go build it in Merry-field.'

He wakes and he rings up ran monks and friars  
At the sound of his little bell;  
I must know, said he, where Merry-field is,  
But the devil-a-bit could they tell.

Full early he rose on a morning grey,  
To meditate and to walk,

And by chance overheard a soldier on guard,  
As he thus to his fellow did talk:

I will lay on the side of my good yew'en bow,  
That I shoot clean over the corn,  
As far as that cow in yon Merry-field,  
Which grazes under the thorn.

Then the bishop cry'd out, 'Where is Merry-field?'

For his mind was still on his vow;

The soldier reply'd, 'By the river's side,  
Where you see that brindled cow.'

Upon this he declared his pious intent,

And about the indulgences ran;

And brought in the people to build a good steeple,

And then the cathedral began.

of the deceased persons who first built, or the persons to whom the said two parts were assigned by the deceased, were to remain in possession of the houses till satisfaction made of the aforesaid price, according to the last will of the deceased. And further, a resolution was passed, that such as should not pay the portion assigned by them to the said fabric within eight days from the term fixed, and should not obtain leave of delay, were to take notice that they were suspended from entrance into the church; but if it should so happen that it was not in their power, that then they should be excused."\*

Matters being in this train, Bishop Poore fixed the day of St. Vitalis the Martyr, (28th April,) in the year 1220, for the *foundation of the new church*. The king, and all the principal nobility and ecclesiastics of the kingdom, were invited to grace the ceremony with their presence; but, when the time approached, Henry could not fulfil his engagement, as he was detained at Shrewsbury negotiating a treaty with the Welch-men. Many noblemen and prelates, however, attended, together with a vast concourse of inferior persons, who flocked hither from every district of the country to witness the solemn spectacle. On the morning of the appointed day the ceremony commenced with the performance of Divine service, after which the bishop, putting off his shoes, walked in procession with the clergy of the church to the place of the foundation, singing the litany. This being finished, a sermon was addressed to the people, to exhort them to contribute their aid towards the completion of the building about to be begun, under the protection of the Blessed Virgin. Then the bishop laid the first stone for Pope Honorius, the second for the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the third for himself: William Longspee, Earl of Sarum, laid the fourth; and Ella, his Countess, a lady of distinguished piety, the fifth. After her, certain noblemen added each a stone; and were followed in the same act by the dean and canons, and many others.† The nobility

\* "Account of Old Sarum, &c." p. 5.

† The account of this ceremony, and of the time at which it took place, is very

lity also being returned from Wales, several of them came to Salisbury, and laid a stone, binding themselves to advance a specific sum of money annually for seven years, upon similar terms to those which the Dean and Chapter had previously agreed to.

The cathedral having been thus commenced under the most favourable auspices, the execution of the work was proceeded in with great rapidity; and, in 1225, Bishop Poore, finding that public worship might be conveniently performed in it, commanded the Dean to summon all the Canons to be present at the first celebration of service on the day of St. Michael following. Accordingly, on the vigil of that saint, which happened to be on a Sunday, the prelate consecrated three altars, one in the eastern part of the church to the honour of the Holy Trinity and All Saints; a second, in its northern division, to St. Peter, and the other Apostles; and a third, in its southern portion, to St. Stephen, and the rest of the martyrs. Next day the Archbishop of Canterbury celebrated Divine service, and preached a sermon to the people who had collected in vast numbers to witness the joyful solemnity. Many prelates, and other dignitaries, both of the church and state, attended on this occasion, and were sumptuously entertained during a whole week at the charge of the bishop. On Thursday the king himself, and Hubert de Burgh, his justiciary, arrived at Salisbury, and went to the cathedral, where, after hearing the mass of the Glorious Virgin, the former offered on the altar ten marks of silver, and one piece of silk; and the latter vowed to present a text of the Bible, set with precious

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stones,

very differently stated by the author of the "History and Antiquities of Salisbury." His words are: "Pandulph, the Pope's legate, in 1216, laid the first five stones, the first for the Pope, the second for the King, the third for the Earl of Salisbury, the fourth for the Countess, and the fifth for the bishop. This statement, we may observe, is wrong as to date, for Bishop Poore was not translated to the see of Sarum till the year 1217; but we really think it more probable than that we have adopted in the text, though the latter is given in the best modern writers, on the authority of William de Wanda. It should likewise be added, that in the charter of King Henry I. the first stone is mentioned as having been laid by him, i. e. in his name.

stones, and the relics of many saints. These are said to have been accordingly presented on the succeeding day, and ordered to be delivered into the custody of the treasurer. The king afterwards gave a gold ring and ruby to be applied to the further ornament of this text; when it was again solemnly placed on the altar by the justiciary in person.\*

About the commencement of the year 1226 *William Longspec*, Earl of Salisbury, returned from Gascoigne, whither he had been sent to assist Prince Richard in the defence of Bourdeaux; and, dying in the month of March following, was the first person whose remains were buried within the new cathedral. This nobleman is said to have been much famed for his valour, and to have ranked among the most accomplished soldiers of his age. His death was generally attributed to the influence of poison administered by orders of Hubert de Burgh, whom he had accused to the king of having committed some gross enormities against him during his absence.†

On the feast of Trinity, in the same year, the bodies of three  
bishops,

\* From the inventory of the riches of the cathedral made in the twenty-eighth year of Henry VIII. this text appears to have been carefully preserved. It is thus inserted in that document under the head "Textus Evangeliorum." "A text after John, gilt with gold, and having precious stones and the relycs of dyvers saints, Ex dono Huberti de Burgh Justiciarii Domini regis Henrici III. Antiq. Sarisbur. p. 20—201."

† The crimes complained of, the majesty of the accusation, and the consequences which ensued, afford a curious picture of the moral and political condition of the age in which they occurred. The earl charged the justiciary with having sent "a fewde man, of base birth and evil race, to have committed fornication with his wife, and would by force have contracted an adulterous marriage with her. He said further, that except the king did thoroughly punish the justiciar for that fact, he himself, with disturbance to the whole realm, would seek to revenge it. The justiciar being present, confessed his fault; and with great horses, and other costly gifts, obtained the earl's favour; so that he bade the said earle to a dinner, in the which (as men thought) the earle, secretly, poysoned, went to his castle at Salisbury, where he lay sick and died."—*Account Old Sarum*, p. 7.—from Stow.

bishops, St. Osmund, Roger, and Joceline, were removed from their respective places of sepulture at Old Sarum, and deposited in this church; and hither were likewise brought the several monuments erected to their memory in the ancient cathedral.

This was the last event of any importance which took place in the prelacy of Richard, who was shortly after translated to Durham, by a papal bull, dated in May 1225.\*

ROBERT BINGHAM, his successor, was elected about Christmas 1228, and consecrated at Wilton in 1229. Like the illustrious founder, he applied himself with great diligence to forward the work of the cathedral; but, though he sat eighteen years, he was far from being able to effect its completion; and died in 1246, leaving it burdened with a debt of 1700 marks.†

Upon this occurrence WILLIAM of YORK, who was in high favour with Henry III. succeeded to the vacant see. This bishop had been brought up at court, and engaged himself much in secular affairs. He revived the vexatious custom of attending the lord's courts, an act which rendered him extremely unpopular in his new preferment, but he nevertheless proved himself equally anxious with his predecessors to promote the building of the cathedral. He died, however, in 1256, while it was yet unfinished, and was buried on the south side of the choir.‡

EGIDIUS (or Giles) DE BRIDPORT, his successor, was consecrated in the same year, and obtained a faculty from Pope Honorius to hold his deanery of Wells in Commendam. Under

K 3

this

\* This illustrious prelate is much praised by Matthew Paris for the correctness of his morals, and the depth and accuracy of his learning. He died in 1237, according to Gough, at Tarent Monkton, in Dorsetshire, where he was born, and where he founded a nunnery, in the church of which his heart was buried; but his body was interred at Durham. His supposed monument in the cathedral of Salisbury will be noticed hereafter.

† This prelate lies buried under an elegant arch in the chancel.

‡ Matthew Paris, speaking of the favourites of Henry III. says, "Among the acquaintance of the king, died William, Bishop of Salisbury, who, among other secular actions, brought one upon him, this, namely, that he heaped infinite curses upon his own head." P. 788.



this prelate the great work of the cathedral was brought to a close, as far at least as was originally intended; for the spire has doubtless been added at a subsequent period, and formed no part of the primary design. Godwin informs us, that it was dedicated by Boniface, Archbishop of Canterbury, Sept. 30, 1258, Henry III.\* and a great number of the nobility assisting at the solemnity. The sum expended in the erection of the whole edifice, as appeared from an account then delivered to the king, amounted to 40,000 marks. Bishop Bridport founded the college of Vaux in 1260;† and, dying in the month of December 1262, was buried under a marble monument in the choir, and left his bishopric to

WALTERUS DE LA WYLE, of whom nothing particular is mentioned, excepting that he founded the college of St. Edmund's.‡ He died January 3, 1270,§ and lies interred in the cathedral.

ROBERT DE WIKHAMPTON, the Dean, was elected bishop by the canons in the same year, and had his election confirmed by the king, as well as by the monks of Canterbury, the archiepiscopal see being then vacant;‡ but, upon the instalment of Archbishop Kilwardy, he violently resented this act of the monks, and appealed against it to the college of Cardinals at Rome. After four years spent in the prosecution, however, decree was finally awarded against the archbishop, and he was accordingly compelled to consecrate Wikhampton in 1274.|| This prelate died in 1284, and was buried in the Lady Chapel.¶

WALTER SCAMMEL, Dean of Sarum, next enjoyed this bishopric; but scarcely lived two years subsequent to his consecration, which took place at Sunning 22d of April, 1284. His successor was

HENRY DE BRAUNDSTON, who died the same year of his election, when

LAWRENCE

\* De Præsulibus, p. 345. † Vide Ante, p. 123. ‡ Ibid. p. 117.

§ Rydburne says he died in 1271.—Anglia Sacra, Vol. I. p. 311.

|| This ceremony was performed at the council of Lyons.—Annal. Wigorn. Vol. I. p. 500.

¶ Godwin, in a note, says, Bishop Wikhampton became blind A. D. 1278, and had an assistant.—De Præsul. p. 345.

LAWRENCE DE HAWKBURN was chosen to succeed him, but died likewise before he was confirmed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, his nomination being disputed by

WILLIAM DE LA CORNER, who was consecrated May 14, 1289, and, dying in 1291, had, for his successor,

NICHOLAS LONGSPEE, son of William, Earl of Sarum, and Ella, his countess. This prelate, before his elevation to the see, was one of the canons, and treasurer of the cathedral. Being far advanced in life at the time of his consecration; he sat only six years, during which period nothing remarkable occurred. His death happened in 1297, when he was buried at the entrance to St. Mary's Chapel, near the tomb of his father.

SIMON DE GANDAVO, or GAUNT, was consecrated bishop in 1298, and died in 1315. Godwin says he was a most distinguished theologian; and drew up those statutes by which the cathedral of Salisbury still continues to be principally governed. It was this bishop who likewise empowered the mayor and citizens of Salisbury to fortify the city with a wall and a ditch. He is said to have been interred beneath an arch on the south side of the choir.

ROGER DE MORTIVAL, or MARTIVALL, his successor, was consecrated in 1315, and died in March 1329. This bishop was son to Sir Anketin de Martivall, of Noseley in Leicestershire, Knt. Before his elevation to this see he was Dean of Lincoln, and Chancellor of Oxford. Tradition ascribes to him a monument on the north side of the choir.

ROBERT WIVIL was appointed to the see by the Pope, who conferred upon him this high dignity in compliment to Queen Philippa, consort of Edward III. Walsingham tells us, that he was not only a man destitute of learning, but so extremely deformed and ugly, that if the pope had seen him, he never would have consented to his elevation. In 1355 he instituted a suit against William de Montacute, claiming the castle of Old Sarum, which was now nearly in ruins, as the inheritance of the Bishops of Salisbury, in right of Bishop Roger, from whom, he alleged, it had been unjustly seized by King Stephen. So difficult was

this controversy, that it was left by the judges to be determined by single combat. The duel, however, was prohibited by the king's letters, and the matter compromised by the surrender of the castle for the sum of 2500 merks. Wyvil also recovered for his church a wood, called Beerewood, and Sherborne Castle, which last had been built by Bishop Roger, and had shared a like fate with the fortress of Old Sarum, so that this prelate may justly be ranked among the great benefactors of the see.\* His death happened on the 4th of September 1375, in the forty-sixth year of his consecration; and his body was interred in the choir under a marble monument, originally situated near the bishop's throne, but removed, in 1684, into the north transept of the choir.

RALPH ERGHUM, ARGUM, or ERGUM, was next consecrated bishop, by the nomination of the Pope, in opposition to John de Wormenshall, who had been elected by the canons of Sarum, and received the approbation of the king. This bishop sat twelve years, when he was translated to the see of Bath and Wells by a papal bull, dated April 3, 1388. He is said to have been a considerable benefactor to the see; and, on his removal, was succeeded by

JOHN WALFHAM, or WALTAN, master of the rolls, and keeper of the privy seal, whose consecration took place in September 1388. Three years after his elevation this prelate was appointed lord chancellor and treasurer of England. While in this station he introduced the writs of *subpœna* and *certis de causis* both in the Chaucery and Exchequer courts; and his example being highly approved

\* Our authorities for stating that this contest took place respecting the castle of Old Sarum, are Camden and Bishop Godwin; but it ought to be remarked that Gough, in his "*Sepulchral Monuments of Great Britain*," (Vol. I. P. II. p. 132.) considers the opinions of these authors as altogether erroneous; and contends that it was Sherborne Castle alone, the possession of which was the subject of dispute between the Earl and the Bishop. One reason for the latter belief, and it certainly is a very strong one, is, that the recovery of Sherborne Castle and Beerewood only, is noticed in the bishop's epitaph.—Camden's *Britannia*, Vol. I.—Godwin de *Præsulibus*, p. 346.

approved of, was followed in several others. He was greatly favoured by Richard II. and continued in the enjoyment of his high dignities till his death in 1395, when the monarch, out of respect for his memory, had him buried in Westminster Abbey, close to the tomb of Edward I. and bound the abbot and convent to commemorate his obit, in the same manner they did those of kings. Waltham was one of the bishops who refused the visitation of the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1390; whereupon he was excommunicated; but, after some contention, submitted; and thus the right of visitation was fully established, and, we believe, has never since been called in question.

RICHARD METFORD, or, as Stow calls him, JOHN DE MITFORD, was translated to this see from Chichester in 1395. While canon of Windsor, he had been thrown into prison, at Bristol, by order of the lords, who convened the council denominated *The Wonderful Parliament*, because many things were done in it contrary to the general expectation. His crime was no other than that of espousing the cause of the unfortunate Richard II.; and hence, upon the monarch's party becoming again triumphant, he was not only released, but successively received the preferments above-mentioned. He died in 1407, after having sat upwards of twelve years, and was buried in this cathedral.

NICHOLAS BUSWITH, or BOBWITH, next held the bishopric of Sarum, having been translated hither from London by a papal bull, on the 30th of August; but, before the expiration of the year, he was removed to the see of Bath and Wells, and invested with the dignity of treasurer of England. Upon this event,

ROBERT HALAM, of HALLAM, Archdeacon of Canterbury, and Chancellor of Oxford, was advanced to the vacant see. This prelate afterwards attained the dignity of a cardinal, June 6, 1411, and was deputed, with Archbishop Chicheley, and Bishop Ketterick, to assist at the council of Pisa convened in 1413. He was likewise present at the council of Constance in 1417, and died in the month of September of that year at the castle of Gottlieb. His

remains were deposited in the cathedral of Constance, the emperor honouring the funeral with his presence.

JOHN CHANDLER, Dean of Sarum, was elected by the canons during a vacancy in the papal chair; and, being approved of by the king, was consecrated to this see the 12th of December 1417. This prelate was educated at Wickham College, in Oxford, and is said to have been a man of splendid literary acquirements. He died, after presiding ten years, and was buried in his cathedral.

ROBERT NEVILL, or NEVILLE, provost of the College of Beverley, next succeeded to this see, October 26, 1427, and held it till the year 1438, when he was removed to the see of Durham. This prelate was son to Ralph Neville, Earl of Westmorland; while Bishop of Salisbury he is said to have founded the monastery of Sunning, in Berkshire, the revenues of which, at the suppression, were estimated at the annual value of 682l. 14s. 7d. His successor was

WILLIAM AISCOTH, AISCOUGH, or HACLIFF \*, a Doctor of Laws, and clerk of the council to Henry VI. Shortly after his consecration in Windsor chapel, the king appointed him his confessor, an office not usually conferred on bishops before that time. On the breaking out of Jack Cade's rebellion, his tenants joining the insurrection seized the bishop in his palace at Eddington, while he was celebrating mass, and dragging him from the altar, to a neighbouring hill, barbarously stoned him to death. They then proceeded to pillage his house, where they found 10,000 marks in money. These events happened on the 29th of June 1450.

RICHARD BEAUCHAMP, son of Sir Walter Beauchamp, and brother to William, Lord St. Amand, was translated hither from the see of Hereford, by a Papal bull. In March 1477, he was installed Dean of Windsor, and is said by Godwin and others  
to

\* name of this prelate is sometimes likewise written *Ascoghe*, *Ascough*, *ugh*.

to have been the first chancellor of the Garter; but Dr. Milner justly claims that honour for William de Edington\*, Bishop of Winchester. Beauchamp built a chapel on the south side of St. Mary's, in which Godwin and Gough affirm that he was buried;† but an epitaph on his tomb stated that he was interred at Windsor. His death happened in 1481.‡

LIONEL WOODVILLE, who succeeded him, was consecrated in the year 1482. This prelate was the son of Richard Woodville, Earl Rivers, and brother to Elizabeth, consort of King Edward IV. At the time of his elevation to the bishopric, he was Dean of Exeter, and had likewise been for some years chancellor of Oxford. Stephen Gardiner, the celebrated bishop of Winchester is said to have been his natural son; though the reputed father was one Gardiner, whom Woodville married to the mother when he found her to be with child, in order to screen himself from the disgrace, which a developement of the intrigue would have occasioned. His sister married Henry, Duke of Buckingham, whose execution is mentioned in a preceding page. On his death, in 1484, he was buried in his own cathedral, and had for his successor

THOMAS LANGTON, Bishop of St. David's, who was translated to the see of Sarum by the Papal authority. After presiding in this diocese about nine years he was removed to the Bishopric of Winchester in 1493, at which time

JOHN BLITHE, or BLYTH, master of the Rolls, and second son of William Blithe of Nerton, in Yorkshire, was consecrated in his stead. In 1494, this bishop was appointed chancellor of Cambridge,

\* History of Winchester, Vol. I. p. 280.

† "Sepulchral Monuments, Vol. II. p. 270. This opinion is supported by the testimony of Leland, and also by that of his own will, dated 16th of October, 1481, wherein he requires his executors to inter his body "in the middle of his chapel newly erected," by himself in his cathedral church.

‡ This prelate was appointed 15 Edward IV. master and surveyor of the works then carrying on in St. George's Chapel, Windsor. Britton's Architectural Antiquities, Vol. III. p. 33.

Cambridge, and died on the 23d of August, in the year 1499. His tomb was situated behind the high altar, in his own cathedral, and is remarkable, as being placed from north to south, and not, as usual, from east to west. It is now fixed in the great north transept.

HENRY DEANE, who had been successively Abbot of Lanthony, in Monmouthshire, Chancellor of Ireland, and Bishop of Bangor, was removed to this see in the year 1500; but had only sat one year when he was made Lord chancellor of England, and advanced to the archiepiscopal see of Canterbury, vacant by the death of Archbishop Morton. These preferments he owed to the favour of Henry VII. whose interests he had most materially promoted in Ireland by quelling the rebellion there in favour of Perkin Warbeck. He died in 1502, and was buried in the cathedral at Canterbury.

EDMUND AUDLEY next obtained the see of Sarum, having been removed hither from Rochester in the same year. He was son to James Touchet, Lord Audley; and was educated at Lincoln College, Oxford, to which he afterwards gave the sum of four hundred pounds for the purchase of lands in Buckinghamshire, and added the patronage of a chantry chapel founded by himself in the cathedral of Salisbury.\* He likewise bestowed the sum of 200l. on the University; and erected a stone pulpit in St. Mary's church, curiously sculptured with his own arms, and those of the See of Sarum. This prelate died, at an advanced age, August 23, 1524, when his remains were interred in his own chantry.

Upon the death of Audley, LAWRENCE CAMPEGIO, COMPEGIO, or CAMPERUS, was constituted Bishop; or rather administrator; or commendatory of the episcopate of Sarum. This prelate was the son of John Campegio, a learned lawyer at Bologna, in Italy; and having been bred to the same profession, acquired such eminence that he was chosen, at an early period of life, to fill the law chair in the University of Padua. The death of his wife, however, induced him to take orders; and in 1510 he became

became auditor of the Rota at Rome, and two years afterwards obtained the Bishopric of Feltria. In 1517, being created a cardinal, he was dispatched to England, with the authority of Pope's Legate, in order to persuade Henry VIII. to join the confederation of Christian princes against the Turks. That monarch received him with great favour; but resisted the object of his mission; whereupon Campegio returned to Rome; and remained in that city till the year 1528, when he was once more sent to this country, to sit as judge with Cardinal Wolsey, on the question of the king's divorce from Catharine of Arragon. This trial lasted from the 31st of May 1529, till the 23d of July following, when it was prorogued till the 1st of October, by Campegio, without any warning; and soon after evoked to Rome under the authority of a Papal bull\*. Henry enraged at the disappointment of his hopes, the failure of which he attributed to the delay of the cardinals in pronouncing their decision, would have executed immediate vengeance on both; but thought proper to dissemble till he should ascertain the intentions of the Pope. No sooner, however, did he perceive that the see of Rome was not disposed to favour his designs, than he deprived Campegio of the Bishopric of Sarum, and disgraced Wolsey †.

NICHOLAS SHAXTON, was preferred to this see by King Henry VIII. and consecrated at St. Stephen's chapel, Westminster, April 11, 1535. In July 1539, however, he was forced to resign for non-conformity; and, on the accession of Queen Mary, was condemned to be burned along with Latimer and other bishops;

\* Hume's History of England, Vol. IV. p. 362, 363.

† Campegio died at Rome in August, 1539, and was buried in the church of St. Mary's, beyond the Tiber. He was a man of great learning, and much esteemed by Erasmus, Sadoleto, and other eminent writers of that age. His letters form the only portion of his works which have reached our time. They were published at Basil, in 1550, in a work intituled "Epistolarum Miscellanearum, Libri Decem," and are said to contain a valuable collection of Historical particulars. "General Biographical Dictionary," Edit. 1813, by A. Chalmers, F. S. A. Vol. VIII.—160—1.



bishops; but, not having resolution enough to endure the torments of the stake, he preached a recantation sermon, at the martyrdom of Anne Askew, in order to save his own life. He was afterwards made suffragan to the Bishop of Ely, and died at Cambridge on the 4th of August 1556.

JOHN SALCOT, or CAPON, on the removal of the last bishop, was translated from the see of Bangor to that of Salisbury, in April 1539, and continued to preside till his death, in October 1557, when his remains were interred on the south side of the choir behind the bishop's throne\*.

PETER PETO was now appointed to this see by Pope Paul the Fourth, in opposition to Cardinal Pole, the favourite of Queen Mary, who on that account not only refused to permit him to take possession of his bishopric, but drove him from her dominions. A negotiation was set on foot with the view of bringing about a reconciliation, which the death of Peter, however, followed by that of the queen herself, rendered abortive.

JOHN JEWEL next succeeded to the see of Salisbury. This prelate was born at Bnden, a hamlet in the parish of Beryn-Arbor, in Devonshire, and was educated in Protestant principles, which he afterwards defended with great zeal and ability. Being elected a scholar of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, in 1539, he removed thither from Merton College, where he had been previously placed; and, in 1540, took the degree of bachelor of arts. About two years after, he was chosen rhetoric professor, an office which he discharged for a period of seven years with great honour to himself and advantage to his pupils. On the accession of Edward IV. he made a public declaration of his attachment

\* Fuller, in his Church History, says "More sparks of persecution flew into the diocese of Salisbury, in Wiltshire, under John Capon, the bishop, and Dr. Geffray, his chancellor; for this Doeg was worse than Saul himself. At Nubery he sent three martyrs to heaven in the same chariot of fire. Julius Palmer, John Gwin, and Thomas Askin. However, this was a light flourish in respect of that great blow he intended, had not Queen Mary died." Cent. XVI. p. 17.

tachment to the Protestant religion; for, though he had always held that faith, he deemed it prudent to conceal his sentiments during the life-time of Henry VIII. When the celebrated Peter Martyr became divinity professor at Oxford, Jewel constantly attended his lectures, and noted them down in short-hand characters of his own invention. In 1550, he took the degree of bachelor in divinity preparatory to his presentation to the rectory of Sunningwell; and, throughout the whole reign of Edward VI. exerted himself with great enthusiasm in the cause of the Reformation. No sooner, therefore, was Mary seated on the throne than he felt the vengeance of the Papists, being not only deprived of his rectorship, but likewise expelled his college by the fellows, without any order from the court. Upon this occurrence he withdrew to Broadgate Hall (now Pembroke College,) where he continued to give instructions privately, till the virulent persecution raised against the Reformists, at the instigation of Bishop Bonner, rendered it expedient for him to seek refuge in Germany, even though he had subscribed the Popish articles an apostasy, which he publicly lamented in a sermon preached soon after his arrival at Frankfort. Here he had only remained a few months, before he repaired to Strasburgh at the invitation of Peter Martyr, who kept a kind of college for learned men; of which he nominated Mr. Jewel vice-master. During this period he assisted that eminent divine in several of his publications, and made an excursion to Padua, where he contracted an intimacy with Signior Scipio, a Venetian gentleman, to whom he afterwards addressed his epistles concerning the council of Trent.

Queen Mary's death, and the accession of Elizabeth, were no sooner announced, than Jewel returned to England; and was one of the sixteen divines chosen to hold a disputation with the Papists in Westminster, in March 1559. He was likewise one of the commissioners appointed by the queen in July of that year to visit the dioceses of Sarum, Exeter, Bristol, Bath and Wells, and Gloucester, in order to purge them of Popery; and in January.

nuary following he was consecrated bishop of this see. About the same time he preached and published a sermon, containing a challenge to all the Roman Catholics in the world to produce out of any father, or famous writer, who flourished within six hundred years after Christ, or from any general council during that period, or from Holy Scripture, any clear and decided testimony to the truth of the Popish tenets objected to by the Reformists. This bold defiance made a great noise; and produced several works in answer; but our prelate only replied to one published by Thomas Harding, who was esteemed the most eminent among the controversialists on that side. In 1562, he gave to the public his learned and justly celebrated "Apology of the Church of England," which was rapidly translated into all the languages of Europe, and is even at this day held in high estimation by Protestant divines. Queen Elizabeth was so much pleased with it that she commanded it to be read and chained up in every parish church within her dominions, an order which was renewed by her successors King James and King Charles I. and highly approved of by four successive Archbishops of Canterbury.

But, though thus engaged in controversy, Bishop Jewel did not neglect the practical duties of his high station. He was a frequent and zealous preacher, and devoted much of his time in travelling through his diocese, and watching over the conduct of the inferior clergy. He likewise sat often personally in his consistory court, and as an assistant on the bench of civil justice. Such, indeed, was his assiduity in the discharge of all his episcopal and civil functions, that he scarcely allowed himself sufficient relaxation to supply the unavoidable exhaustion of nature. His health consequently became impaired while he was yet in the prime of life; and he was cut off from the stage of mortal existence at Monkton Farley, in Wiltshire, on the 22d of September 1571.

Bishop Jewel was remarkable for the strength of his memory; and was not probably excelled by any English divine of his age, either

either in correctness of judgment, or extent of erudition. Camden, in his description of the cathedral, after bestowing the highest praise on its architectural beauties, says, "But it hath nothing of which it may so justly boast, as of John Jewel, bishop of this place, the wonder of his age for his knowledge in divinity, and a most strenuous defender of the reformed religion." He built a library over the east cloister in this cathedral, which was furnished with books by his successor. The remains of this prelate were deposited under a tomb in the choir opposite to the bishop's throne.

EDMUND GUEST, or GHEAST, Doctor of Theology, and some time Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, was consecrated Bishop of Rochester, and Almoner to the queen, 21st, January, 1559; was translated to the See of Sarum, 24th of December, 1571, and died on the 28th of February, 1578, having presided nearly seven years, during which time he is said to have been a considerable benefactor to the cathedral, particularly in the circumstance of contributing large donations of books to the library. This prelate wrote a great variety of works, which are enumerated by Bale; but none of them have acquired any great degree of celebrity. He was buried in the choir of his cathedral, close to the tomb of Wivil, and interposed between him and Bishop Jewel. His successor was

JOHN PIERS, D. D. who was translated hither from Rochester in the same year. This prelate was born near Abingdon, in Berkshire, and received his education at Magdalen College, Oxford, in which he took his degrees, and became a Fellow in 1548. About the same time he entered into holy orders, and was constituted divinity reader there, an office held by him for several years, in conjunction with the rectory of Quainton, in Buckinghamshire. In 1553, he was made prebendary of Chester, and soon after dean; and in 1570, was chosen master of Baliol College, Dean of Christ Church, Dean of Salisbury, and Bishop of Rochester successively, and held the two last dignities together, till his preferment to the See of Salisbury, in which he presided with great honour and repute for ten years, when he

was translated to the Archbishopric of York. He died in 1594, and lies buried in the cathedral church there. After a vacancy of three years,

JOHN COLDWELL, Doctor of Physic of St. John's College, in Cambridge, succeeded to this See, and was consecrated 26th of December 1591. Coldwell is remarkable for having been the first married bishop of Sarum. He sat about five years; and, dying in 1596, was interred by the side of Jewel, almost in the very grave of Wivil\*.

HENRY COTTON next obtained this bishopric, after it had again remained vacant for upwards of two years. He was the son of Sir Richard Cotton, Knt. a member of the privy council in the reign of Edward VI. Being educated at Magdalen College, Oxford, he took his degrees in arts there, and entering soon after into sacred orders, was appointed chaplain to Queen Elizabeth, and prebendary of Winchester. When consecrated Bishop of Salisbury, not having previously been created doctor of divinity, a special commission was deputed from the college for that purpose, so that he received both honours at the same time. Queen Elizabeth stood godmother to this prelate before her elevation to the throne. He married immediately after he commenced preacher, and had nineteen children by one wife. Having governed this See about seven years he died May the 7th, 1615, and was buried in his own cathedral, near the tomb of his wife. Godwin says this bishop was not more honourable by his birth, than distinguished for his learning, and for such virtues as peculiarly adorn the episcopal office.

ROBERT ABBOT, D. D. the succeeding bishop in this See, received his education, and took his degrees at Balliol College, Oxford, of which he subsequently became master. Having greatly signalized himself as a preacher at a very early period of

\* This bishop alienated the manor of Sherborne from the bishopric, at the importunity of Sir Walter Raleigh, who begged the same of the queen for himself, and obtained it. Fuller says that the prelate afterwards so much repented of this act, that he never again enjoyed himself, and literally died of a broken heart. Church History, Cent. XVI. p. 223. Cent. XVII. p. 27.

of life, he was successively preferred to the rectorship of All Saints in Worcestershire, and of Bingham, in Northamptonshire. At the commencement of the reign of King James I. that monarch appointed him his chaplain in ordinary. About the same time he was constituted Regius Professor of divinity in the University of Oxford. Three years afterwards he obtained the bishopric of Sarum, a preferment which the king is said to have bestowed upon him, in reward for his excellent lectures *De Potestate Regia*, written in opposition to Bellarmine and Suarez. This prelate sat only two years, having been carried off by the stone on the 2d of March 1617. He was buried in the cathedral near the bishop's seat.

Bishop Abbot, says Fuller, was not only an honour to this See, but one of the proudest ornaments of the church of England, both on account of his vast erudition, and the sanctity of his life. The same author tells us, that he was born at Guilford in Surrey, of religious parents, who had suffered much during the Popish persecutions\*. At the same time that he held the Bishopric of Sarum, his brother, George Abbot, was Arch-bishop of Canterbury, a coincidence of which there is only one other example in the ecclesiastical annals of this country. Maurice, another of his brothers, being bred a merchant, became Lord Mayor of London, and was the first knight created by King Charles I. This prelate published several works besides those already mentioned. One of them, entitled *Antilogia*, was written in answer to a Treatise in defence of Garnet, the Powder-plot Jesuit. His MS. Commentary upon the Epistle to the Romans is deposited in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. A little before his death he was appointed Fellow of King James's projected College at Chelsea, now the Military Hospital.

MARTIN FOTNERBY, D. D. His successor, was born at Grimsby, in Lincolnshire, and educated in Trinity College, Cambridge, where he took his degrees, and soon after became a Fellow. He was twenty-two years a prebendary of Canterbury; and when pre-

terred to this See, being far advanced in life, scarcely held it a full year, his consecration having taken place on the 9th of April, A. D. 1618; and his death, towards the end of March, A. D. 1619. Stow tells us, that this prelate was kinsman and pupil to Archbishop Whitgift, and also for some time chaplain to the king \*. His body was interred in the church of All Souls, Lombard Street, where a monument was erected to his memory Bishop Fotherby has four sermons extant, and a treatise, intitled "Atheomastix," which was published in 1622.

ROBERT TOUNSON, or TONSON, or TOMPSON, D. D. was advanced to this see in 1620. This prelate acquired his education at Queen's College, Cambridge, where, after taking the usual degrees in arts, he was chosen Fellow. In 1617 he succeeded Dr George Montaigne in the Deanery of Westminster, and continued in that situation till his preferment to the Bishopric of Salisbury, a dignity which he enjoyed only ten months. He died May. 15, 1621, leaving a wife and fifteen children in very narrow circumstances, and was buried in the abbey-church, Westminster.

JOHN DAVENANT, D. D. brother-in-law to the late bishop, next succeeded to the vacant See. His father was a wealthy citizen of London; but he himself was born at Sible-Hedingham, in Essex. After acquiring the rudiments of his education at a private seminary, he entered as a fellow commoner in Queen's College, Cambridge, where he very early evinced strong proofs of superior knowledge and sagacity. When first offered a fellowship, he declined it, at the desire of his father, who conceived that it was intended by the founders for such persons only, as were destitute of an independent competency. After the death of his father, however, he accepted a renewed offer of the same station, and was accordingly chosen a member of that society. He was soon elected Margaret professor of divinity, and afterwards obtained the provostship of the college. While in this situation, the States of the United Provinces having requested King James to send over some of his divines to attend a synod, at Dort, to determine the controversies then hotly agitated, with the Arminians,

minians, Dr. Davenant was selected as a fit person to be employed. He accordingly went to Dort, and remained there from October 1618, to April 1619, when the disputes being settled, he returned home, and was soon after preferred to the Bishopric of Sarum. This prelate published a variety of works in Polemic divinity, several of which are still extant. His principal treatise is intituled *De Predestinatione et Justificatione*. He died April 20, 1641, having presided over this diocese nearly twenty years, and was buried in the south aisle of his cathedral opposite to the monument of Bishop Capon.

BRIAN DUPPA, or DE URHAUGH, D. D. the succeeding bishop in the See of Salisbury, was born at Lewisham, in Kent, in the year 1589, and educated as king's scholar, at Westminster School, whence he removed, May 1605, to Christ-Church College, Oxford. Here having taken his degrees in arts, and entered into holy orders, he first became chaplain to the Earl of Dorset, and afterwards to the Prince Palatine. In 1629 he was elected Deau of Christ Church, and vice-chancellor of the University; and in 1634, was promoted to the chancellorship of the church of Sarum. About the same time he was appointed tutor to Prince Charles; and four years afterwards was translated to the See of Chichester. His consecration as Bishop of Salisbury took place, in 1641; but he was scarcely allowed sufficient time to visit his diocese, before he and all the bishops in the kingdom were deprived of their Sees by a vote of the Republican Parliament. Upon this event, our prelate retired to Oxford, and remained there till the surrender of the city. He accompanied Charles I. during his imprisonment in the Castle of Carisbrooke, in the Isle of Wight, and is supposed to have assisted the monarch in the composition of his celebrated *LITANY*. After the execution of the king, Bishop Duppa resided at Richmond, where he lived in seclusion till the period of the Restoration, when he returned to his See; but only enjoyed it two months before he was preferred to the Bishopric of Winchester; and constituted Lord Almoner to the king. This prelate, among other liberal benefactions, erected a large almshouse at Richmond, and endowed the



the same with the sum of 1500*l*. He likewise gave 500*l*. to the cathedral of Salisbury, to be expended in repairs. He died at Richmoud, in March 1662, and was buried in Westminster Abbey Church, where a noble monument still remains to his memory.

HUMPHRY HENCHMAN, D. D. next succeeded to this See, and was consecrated 28th October 1660. This bishop was son of Thomas Henchman, of Cripplegate, London, where he was born; and being educated in Clare Hall, Cambridge, became Fellow of that house, soon after he had taken his degrees in arts. In 1622 he was promoted to the chanter'ship of this cathedral, which he held first with the prebend of South-Grantham; and subsequently with that of Teynton. In the civil war he zealously espoused the cause of the house of Stuart, and aided Charles II. both with his courage and advice at the fatal battle of Worcester. He also facilitated the escape of that monarch to France, hence the king was no sooner restored to his throne than he nominated his benefactor to the bishopric of Salisbury, as the reward of his steady and inflexible loyalty. Having presided about three years, the king was pleased to prefer him to the See of London, and also to invest him with the office of Lord Almoner, both which dignities he retained to the period of his death, in October, 1675. During the prelacy of this bishop at Salisbury, some material alterations were made on the form and decorations of the choir.

JOHN EARLE, D. D. was advanced to the Bishopric of Sarum, from that of Worcester on the 26th of September, A. D. 1663. This prelate was born at York, but the exact period of his birth is unknown: neither are we informed by any writer in what condition of life his parents were placed. It seems most probable, however, that they were persons of respectability and affluence as he was sent, at an early age to Oxford, and entered as a commoner of Christ-Church college, where he took his degree of Bachelor of Arts, and distinguished himself so much by his exemplary conduct and application to study, that he became a successful candidate at Merton college, and was admitted a probationary Fellow on that foundation, before he had reached his twentieth year.

Here

Here he took the degree of Master of Arts, July 10, 1624, and in 1631, served the office of Proctor of the university. About the same time having entered into holy orders, he was appointed family chaplain to Philip, Earl of Pembroke, who presented him to the rectory of Bishopston, in this county. Upon the preferment of Dr. Duppa to the See of Salisbury, Bishop Earle was nominated preceptor to Prince Charles. In 1642 he obtained the degree of Doctor of Divinity, and the next year was elected one of the assembly of divines, empowered by the Parliament to remodel the church, but declined to sit among them.

A few months afterwards he obtained the chancellorship of this cathedral, an office which he held only for a short time; for the civil war commencing in 1643, he was ejected from all his stations; and compelled to seek refuge, from the persecution of his enemies, by retiring to Normandy. While at Roan he met with King Charles II. his former pupil, who admitted him one of his chaplains, and also made him clerk of the closet. At the restoration he was constituted Dean of Westminster, and appointed one of the commissioners for a review of the liturgy. In November 1662 he was consecrated Bishop of Worcester, where he had scarcely presided a whole year, before his translation to this See. Bishop Earle has been much extolled for his learning and particularly for the elegant diction and close reasoning of his sermons. He was likewise remarkable for wit, which he not only displayed in conversation, but also in several pieces chiefly written and published in early life. Of these, that which has acquired the highest celebrity, is his "*Microcosmography, or A Piece of the World Displayed,*" a work replete with much characteristic remark, and genuine humour.\* In his riper age, he translated the ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΟΛΟΓΙΑ, and Hooker's treatise on ecclesiastical polity, into Latin, in so pure a style, as to rank him among the first modern masters of

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\* A new edition of this work has been lately published by Philip Bliss, Esq. Fellow of St. John's College, Oxford, to which are subjoined critical and explanatory notes and an appendix containing some of the bishop's poems and letters.

that language. When the court, to avoid the infection of the plague, which raged at London in 1663, removed to Oxford, this prelate attended it, and dying there, on the 17th of November in the same year, was interred near the altar in Merton College Church.\*

ALEXANDER HYDE, or HIDE, the successor of the last Bishop, was son of Sir Lawrence Hyde, knight, and a native of this city. His first preferment in the church was the subdeanery of Sarum, and the prebend of South-Grantham. In 1660 he was constituted Dean of Winchester, whence he was translated to the Bishopric of Salisbury, by the recommendation of his kinsman the celebrated Earl of Clarendon, and consecrated at Oxford 3d December 1665. At his death, which happened in August, 1667, his body was deposited in the south aisle of his own cathedral.

SETH WARD, D. D. born at Buntingford in Hertfordshire was the next Bishop of Sarum. He was the son of an attorney of considerable respectability, and received the rudiments of his education at the Grammar School in his native village. In 1633, when he had reached his fourteenth year, his father sent him to Sidney College, Cambridge, over which Dr. Samuel Ward then presided as master; who, though of the same name, was no relation to the young pupil. Attracted by his ingenuity, however,

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\* Several characters of this distinguished bishop have been given by different writers, but that of Lord Clarendon is perhaps at once the most succinct and explicit. The noble author says, he was a person much distinguished for his acquirements in the Greek and Latin tongues, "of great piety and devotion; a most eloquent and powerful preacher; and of a conversation so pleasant and delightful, so very innocent and so very facetious that no man's company was more desired or more loved. No man was more negligent in his dress and habit, and meagre; no man more wary, and cultivated in his behaviour and discourse; insomuch, as he had the greater advantage when he was known by promising so little before he was known. He was an excellent poet in Latin, Greek, and English, as appears by many pieces yet abroad, though he surpassed many more himself, especially of English, incomparably good, out of an austerity to those sallies of his youth." *Account of his own Life*, folio Edit. 1760, p. 26.

the doctor paid great attention to his instruction; and was amply repaid by the astonishing progress, which he made in every branch of science; especially in the mathematics. Having taken a degree in arts, Mr. Ward soon obtained a fellowship, and became eminent as a teacher; but this situation he shortly\*after lost, in consequence of his refusal to sign the covenant as enjoined by the Parliamentary commissioners. He next resided about twelve months in London, and cultivated the friendship and society of some learned mathematicians. By the interest of Sir John Trevor, he was appointed Savilian Professor of Astronomy in the University of Oxford; and, during his residence there he was nominated by Dr. Brownrig, precentor to Exeter Cathedral. Several university honors were also conferred on him about this time; he was incorporated Master of Arts; in 1654 D. D. and in 1657, he was elected principal of Jesus College. Cromwell, however over-ruled this election, in favour of Francis Howell, and promised the Dr. 80l. per. annum as a compensation. This sum was never paid.

~ In 1659 he was chosen president of Trinity College, where he presided till the recall of King Charles, when he was obliged to resign; and in return was presented to the rectory of St. Lawrence Jewry. About the commencement of the year 1661, he became a Fellow of the Royal Society, of which, indeed, he may be regarded as one of the founders; and only a few months afterwards succeeded to the deanery of Exeter, which he had scarcely enjoyed a year before he obtained the bishopric. In 1667 he was translated to Salisbury, and proved equally attentive to the interests of this diocese, as he had been to those of Exeter. He repaired both the cathedral, and the palace, at his own expence, and obtained from King Charles a grant, declaring the Chancellorship of the Garter, to be hereditary in the bishops of Salisbury. In his time the spire of the cathedral having been struck by lightning, and apprehensions being entertained of its stability, on account of its remarkable declension from the perpendicular, Sir Christopher Wren, was engaged to survey the whole edifice, and draw up a report on the state of its architecture. The College of Matrons, situated

in the Close, was erected and endowed by this bishop. He likewise established an hospital at Buntingford, in Hertfordshire, for old men, with a salary of 10*l.* each, and founded four scholarships in Christ's College, Cambridge. Towards the close of his life he was offered the bishopric of Durham, but declined to accept of it. About the same period he maintained a smart controversy with his dean, Dr. Pierce, respecting the right of bestowing prebends. This contest originated in the refusal of the bishop to confer one on the son of that gentleman, who, in resentment of the indignity, wrote a work entitled "A Vindication of the King's sovereign Rights," in which he laboured to demonstrate that the privilege of conferring the prebends of Sarum was legally vested in the king alone. The dean, however, upon the matter being investigated by the ecclesiastical commissioners, found he had applied his talents and learning to no purpose; for the decision proved against him, and he was compelled to solicit pardon. But, though successful in the controversy, Bishop Ward was so much depressed by it, that his faculties were totally lost for some years before his death, which occurred 6th January 1689, when he was interred in the south transept of his own cathedral.

GILBERT BURNET was born at Edinburgh, in 1643. After receiving the rudiments of learning under the superintendence of his father, a respectable lawyer, he was sent to the college of Aberdeen, where, as was not unusual at that period, and particularly in the northern seminaries of education, he commenced M. A. at the early age of fourteen. At first he applied himself to the study of the civil law, but afterwards devoted his attention to divinity; and at eighteen was put upon his trial as a probationary preacher. Having declined the acceptance of a valuable living, from a conviction that his youth would preclude the satisfactory performance of its duties, he travelled into Holland, and resided for some time at Amsterdam. From that place he proceeded to the Netherlands and France, residing for some time at Paris. On his return in 1665, at the age of twenty two, he was ordained

ordained priest, and presented by Sir Robert Fletcher to the living of Salton. He had scarcely been inducted, before he displayed that active and determined spirit which distinguished his character throughout every period of his life, by the circulation of a memorial against the abuses of the Scotch bishops. His conduct on this occasion excited the resentment of Archbishop Sharpe, who proposed the privation and excommunication of the young memorialist; but Burnet defended himself with spirit, and the discussion was suspended. In 1669, he was made professor of divinity in the university of Glasgow, of which office he exercised the functions for more than four years with equal advantage to his pupils and to himself. Having visited London and meditated a reconciliation between the Earl of Lauderdale and the Duke of Hamilton, he was offered a bishopric; but this he declined: on a subsequent occasion, the same offer was repeated, and refused; and on another journey to London he was appointed one of the king's chaplains in ordinary. His interest with the court was of short duration: he had not long before defended the prerogatives of the crown of Scotland against the opinions of Buchanan and his followers: but he soon afterwards resolved to support the opposition party in the Scottish Parliament, and consequently incurred the displeasure of the Earl of Lauderdale. For personal security he resigned his professorship at Glasgow, and returned to London, where he was coldly received by the king, who erased his name from the list of his chaplains. He was now regarded as a sufferer from principle, and obtained the appointments of preacher at the Rolls Chapel, and lecturer at St. Clements. In the course of the same year, 1676, he was frequently examined at the bar of the House of Commons respecting the designs of Lauderdale; and four years afterwards received the thanks of both Houses of Parliament, on the publication of the first volume of his history of the reformation, which appeared at a moment when the nation was violently agitated by the suspicion of a popish plot in 1680. He committed to the world a pathetic and interesting account of the life and death of Lord Rochester, whom he had attended in his  
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last moments, and converted to repentance. Having been present at the death bed of Mrs. Roberts, one of Charles the 2d. mistresses he addressed a letter to that monarch, of reproof or admonition; which the latter read twice over and threw into the fire; after that period never mentioning the writer but with great displeasure. Such, indeed, was the resentment against him at the English court, that in 1684, he was discharged from his lectureship of St. Clements by the king's mandate, and forbidden to preach any longer at the Rolls chapel. On the accession of James II. he went to Paris, and lived for some time in great privacy; till, at the persuasion of a Protestant officer in the French service, he accompanied him in a tour through Italy, Switzerland, part of Germany, and the south of France. At the end of his travels, of which he published an account in 1687, he was invited to the Hague by the prince and princess of Orange, but was formally dismissed on the remonstrance of the English ambassador. His former wife Lady Margaret Kennedy, daughter of the Earl of Cassilis, being dead, he obtained naturalization in Holland and married a Dutch lady of large fortune, descended from the family of Buccleugh in Scotland. In the mean time James had caused a prosecution for high treason to be instituted against him both in England and in Scotland; but the States refused, on the king's demand, to deliver him up. In the revolution he acted a conspicuous part, both as a writer, and as the personal friend of the Prince of Orange. He was rewarded for his long and faithful services by promotion to the See of Salisbury, to which he was consecrated in the year 1689; in the discharge of his episcopal functions he was fervent and assiduous, and he constituted at Salisbury a university of students in divinity, which he supported at his own expense, till he had reason to suspect that such an institution might be regarded as a censure upon the universities. In 1693, he was appointed preceptor to the Duke of Gloucester, and about the same period, having lost his second wife, he married for the third, the widow Berkeley, the authoress of a "Method of Devotion." His life

life was terminated by a pleuritic fever on March 17th, 1715, in the 72d year of his age.

Bishop Burnet had all the virtues and all the vices of a man of moderate talents and sanguine temperament, unexpectedly placed in situations for which he was not prepared by nature and by study; endeavouring to supply, by continual bustle and uncalled for activity, the want of more solid and important requisites. As a divine he is learned, ingenious, and animated; but, as an historian, he seems to have yielded, without resistance, to the unsocial bias of his character; and the reader, whose curiosity is gratified by the singular and entertaining anecdotes that such an individual could not fail to collect, during a long intercourse with the world, is too frequently disgusted by the intrusion of vanity, credulity, and garrulous prolixity. He possesses neither the discrimination of the philosopher, nor that common regard to selection and arrangement that are necessary even in the colloquial narratives of social intercourse. But his virtues were not less remarkable than his foibles; he was disinterested, liberal, and benevolent; a courtier without servility, and a patriot without violence; the faithful servant of his king, and the strenuous supporter of the civil and religious liberties of his country.

WILLIAM TALBOT, the next bishop, was born at Stourton-Castle, in Staffordshire. Being admitted a gentleman commoner at Oriel College, Oxford, he took his degrees there; and, having shortly after entered into holy orders, obtained the deanery of Worcester through the interest of his kinsman, Charles Talbot, then Earl of Shrewsbury. On the death of Dr. Fell, in 1699, he was preferred to the bishopric of Oxford, with permission to hold his deanery in Commendam, and continued to preside over that diocese till the year 1715, when he was nominated to the See of Sarum. Having sat here about six years, he was translated to that of Durham, of which county he was Lord-lieutenant and *Castos Rotulorum*. His death happened on the 10th of October, 1730. This bishop was twice married; and had by his second wife



• wife eight sons and several daughters. One of his sons afterwards became Lord Chancellor of England.

RICHARD WILLIS, Dean of Lincoln, and Bishop of Gloucester, was translated to the See of Salisbury in 1721. This prelate had being also for some time chaplain to King William, and was greatly admired by him for his talent of extempore eloquence. After presiding over this diocese nearly two years, he was preferred by George I. to the See of Winchester, and held that dignity till his demise in 1734, when he was buried in the cathedral there. His tomb supports a statue, which Milner tells us is the most finished in the whole church, "and perpetuates his form and features." His successor in the bishopric of Sarum was

BENJAMIN HOADLEY, who was born at Westerham in Kent in the year 1676. He was son of the Rev. Mr. Samuel Hoadley, master of a private seminary there, and received the rudiments of his education under his father's tuition. In 1691 he was admitted a pensioner of Catharine-Hall, Cambridge, where he took his degree in arts, and was elected Fellow, a station which he held for two years with the highest reputation as a teacher. Having entered into holy orders during this period, he was appointed by Dr. Compton, Bishop of London, to the lectureship of St. Mildred in the Poultry, where he continued ten years, holding at the same time the rectory of St. Peter's Poor, in Broad-street. In 1710 he was presented to the rectory of Streatham; and was honoured with a chaplainship to Wriothsley, Duke of Bedford, both which appointments he owed entirely to the celebrity of his writings: indeed to that source all his preferments may properly be ascribed. On the accession of George I. our divine was admitted and sworn king's chaplain, and had the degree of doctor of divinity conferred upon him by Archbishop Wake. This was, however, only the prelude to higher promotions, which were not long delayed; for, in December, 1715, he was nominated to the bishopric of Bangor, and consecrated in March following. In 1721 he was preferred to  
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the See of Hereford; and in two years after succeeded to the See of Salisbury, when he resigned the rectory of Streatham. Having sat here about twelve years, he was removed to the diocese of Winchester, over which he presided till his death; an event which occurred at his palace at Chelsea, on the 17th of April, in the year 1761. He was buried in his own cathedral, where a plain monument was erected to his memory, by his son John Hoadley, L.L. D. chancellor of Winchester, and inscribed with a Latin epitaph, which was found among his papers.

Bishop Hoadley may be justly regarded as one of the most celebrated polemical writers of his age; and few men have probably flourished at any period whose lives were more completely occupied in controversy than his. He first began to distinguish himself in this respect in 1703, by the publication of a tract in vindication of the conforming clergy, from the aspersions of Mr. Calamy in the tenth chapter of his "Abridgment of Mr. Baxter's History of his Life and Times." This treatise being answered by Mr. Calamy produced a warm contest, which was closed in 1707. But before that event our divine had engaged in another, occasioned by a sermon preached by him before the Lord Mayor in 1705, in which he laid down maxims on the subject of the civil interference in ecclesiastical matters, which met with strong opposition from the High Church party. He also about the same time attacked some doctrines advanced by Dr. Atterbury, respecting the power of charity, considering them not only as ill founded, but of a dangerous moral tendency. In 1708, he entered the lists with Dr. Blackhall, Bishop of Exeter; and in the following year had another contest with Dr. Atterbury concerning passive obedience, in which he acquitted himself with such ability and judgment, that the thanks of the House of Commons were voted to him "for his eminent services both to the church and state."

From this time till the year 1717, Bishop Hoadley, chiefly employed himself in executing the more ordinary duties of his profession; but in that year having preached a sermon before the

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king, "On the Nature of the Kingdom, or Church of Christ," the tenets he espoused in it gave such offence to the clergy that they resolved to proceed against him by Convocation. The Lower House accordingly drew up their representation, &c.; but before it could be brought into the Upper House, the whole assembly was prorogued by the special command of his majesty; these occurrences gave rise to the celebrated Bangorian controversy, so called from Dr. Hoadley being at that period Bishop of Bangor. Many of the most eminent men in the church were engaged in this contest, in opposition to our prelate, who, nevertheless, maintained his opinions with so much solidity of argument, that all impartial men were satisfied with the justice of his cause, which in the issue proved the death blow of civil and ecclesiastical tyranny.\*

After the close of this contest Bishop Hoadley published many treatises on different subjects. The remarks relative to the trial of Dr. Atterbury, signed "Britannicus," which appeared in 1723, were universally ascribed to his pen. In 1732, he wrote "An Account of the Life, Writings, and Character of Dr. Samuel Clarke," which was prefixed to the posthumous works of that eminent divine. His other publications consisted chiefly of sermons on various subjects both polemical and moral, some of which met with zealous opposition; but our bishop did not think proper to reply formally to any of his opponents. Since his death several editions of his works have been laid before the public, and are collectively considered as containing a most valuable

\* The doctrines advanced by Bishop Hoadley in this controversy were, "that Christ alone was King and sole lawgiver in his own kingdom; that to acquire a knowledge of his laws we must consult his sayings, and those of his inspired followers; that he had declared his kingdom not to be of this world; and that the sanctions of it were of the same spiritual nature, not of this world; and that consequently all encouragements and discouragements of this world were not what Christ approved of; tending as they did to make men of one profession not of one faith; hypocrites, not Christians." Brit. Bids. Vol. IX. p. 158.

valuable mass of ecclesiastical, political, and moral information. THOMAS SHERLOCK succeeded to the see of Salisbury on the removal of Bishop Hoadley to Winchester. This prelate was the eldest son of the celebrated Dr. William Sherlock, and was born in London, in the year 1678. Having acquired the rudiments of his education at Eton, he was admitted of Catharine-Hall, Cambridge, where he took his degrees in arts, was elected a Fellow, and entered into priest's orders. When his father resigned the dignified station of Master of the Temple, in 1704, his son was appointed to succeed him; and, notwithstanding his youth, acquitted himself in that office with great satisfaction to the societies. About two years afterwards he became doctor of divinity; and in 1714, was chosen to the mastership of his college, and was subsequently promoted to the vice-chancellorship of the University. In 1716, he obtained the deanery of Chichester, and in the year following made his first appearance as an author, in opposition to Bishop Hoadley in the Bangorian controversy; during which he published several tracts in defence of the test and corporation acts, acknowledged by his antagonist to be the most plausible and ingenious of any works written at the period, on that side of the question. Indeed, he may be justly regarded as the leader of the High Church party in that contest, his treatises having always met with the peculiar animadversion of Bishop Hoadley. About eight years subsequent to its close, Sherlock was advanced to the See of Bangor, where he sat ten years before his preferment to the Bishopric of Salisbury. Here he continued to preside till the year 1748, when he accepted a translation to the See of London, vacant by the death of Bishop Gibson. Upon this promotion our prelate had some dispute with Dr. Herring, Archbishop of Canterbury, respecting his right of option, which, however, was compromised by the advice of his friends. Bishop Sherlock died on the 18th of July 1761, and was interred in the churchyard at Fulham, in a vault made for that purpose; where a monument remains to his memory, inscribed with an epitaph from

the pen of Dr. Nicholl, who succeeded him in the mastership of the temple.

JOHN GILBERT, his successor, was translated to this see from that of Llandaff in the year 1748. He presided till 1757, when he was promoted to the archbishopric of York. The next bishop of Sarum was

JOHN THOMAS, who was at the time of installation tutor to his present majesty, and bishop of Peterborough. This prelate sat about four years, at the end of which period, he was translated to the see of Winchester; and dying in 1781, was buried in his own cathedral. Bishop Thomas was succeeded in the see of Salisbury by

ROBERT DRUMMOND, who was advanced from that of St. Asaph in 1761, but had not presided a full year before he was elevated to the archiepiscopal chair of York, and left the bishopric of Sarum to

JOHN THOMAS, (the second of that name,) who had been successively bishop of St. Asaph, and of Lincoln, whence he was removed hither in December 1761. He died in June 1766, and lies interred under a marble monument in the cathedral.

JOHN HUME next succeeded to the vacant see. This prelate had been previously consecrated bishop of Bristol in 1756, and in 1758 was removed to Oxford. Having presided over the diocese of Sarum about 16 years, he died 27th June, 1782, and was interred in his cathedral. His successor was

THE HON. SHUTE BARRINGTON, youngest and only surviving son of John, first Viscount Barrington. This prelate was born in 1734; and after receiving the rudiments of education at Eton, was sent as a gentleman commoner to Merton College, Oxford, and became a fellow in 1755. Two years afterwards he took the degree of M. A. and in 1760 was honoured with a chaplainship to the king. The following year he was made a canon of Christ Church; about which time he married Lady Diana Beauclerk, only daughter of Charles, Duke of St. Albans; and shortly after obtained the degree of Doctor in Divinity. In 1769 he

he was preferred to the see of Llandaff, and in the year subsequent, his first lady being dead, he married Jane, daughter of Sir John Guise, Bart. Having held the bishopric of Llandaff, till 1782, he was then translated to that of Salisbury, where he presided nine years, when he was removed to the see of Durham, which he continues to enjoy.

During his prelacy at Salisbury very extensive and important alterations were made in the internal arrangement and ornaments of the cathedral. The Bishop's Palace and the gardens were much improved, and the area round the church levelled and laid open.

JOHN DOUGLAS, D. D. the succeeding bishop of Salisbury, was born at Pittenweem in Scotland, in the year 1721: entered a commoner of St. Mary Hall, Oxford, in 1736; removed to Balliol College as an exhibitioner in 1738, and took his degree of Master of Arts in 1743. In the following year he accompanied the third regiment of foot guards to the continent, in the capacity of chaplain. In 1747, after being ordained priest, he was invited by the Earl of Bath, to accompany his son Lord Pulteney on his travels; and on his return to England in 1749, was presented by that nobleman to the free chapel of Eton-Constantine, in Shropshire. In the following year he first attracted the attention and the gratitude of the literary world by his detection of the forgeries of Lauder, who had interpolated the poems of the continental scholars, with Latin translations from various parts of *Paradise Lost*, and then produced the verses he had thus composed as proofs of the plagiarisms of Milton from preceding poets. Mr. Douglas had the honour of first discovering and detecting the fraud. He published in 1750 an able reply to the Scotch critic in a pamphlet intitled "*Milton vindicated from the Charge of Plagiarism.*" His vindication is distinguished by accuracy of knowledge, perspicuity of language, and a tone of dignified moderation, too seldom observable in the triumphant assailant of weakness and imposture. In 1754, Mr. Douglas again appeared before the public, as author of "*the Criterion or Miracles examined;*" an able refutation of the objections of Hume and of

other unbelievers against the reality of the miracles recorded in the New Testament. In 1756, he stood forward once more as the detector of literary fraud. Archibald Bower, a Scotch Jesuit, educated in Italy, having been compelled to quit that country in consequence of the most flagrant irregularities, succeeded in exciting the support and compassion of the public, by a romantic history of the causes that led to his voluntary banishment, and by pretending to be a persecuted convert to the Protestant belief. In the hopes of extending and confirming the delusion, he published by subscription a history of the Popes, in which he ostentatiously chastised their errors, and their vices. After a long and arduous controversy, conducted on the one part with the irritability natural to guilt, and on the other with the calm and deliberate confidence of truth, Mr. Douglas succeeded in convincing the public of the falsehood and infamy of the pretended convert.

In the mean time he had been successively presented by Lord Bath to the vicarage of High-Ercal, and having taken his doctor's degree, to the perpetual curacy of Henley, in Shropshire. In 1760 he was appointed one of his majesty's chaplains, and in 1762 canon of Windsor. In 1764, he exchanged his livings in Shropshire for that of St. Austin and St. Faith in Watling-street. In 1765, he was married to Miss Rooke. In 1776, he was removed from the chapter of Windsor to that of St. Paul's. In 1778, he was elected a member of the Royal and Antiquarian Societies, and in 1786, one of the vice-presidents of the latter, and in 1787, a trustee of the British Museum. In the same year he was promoted to the bishopric of Carlisle. On vacating the residentiaryship of St. Paul's in 1788, he acceded to the deanery of Windsor; and in 1791, he was translated to the see of Salisbury. He died May 18, 1807, and was interred in St. George's chapel in Windsor Castle.

The powerful patronage of Lord Bath, his own pleasing and unobtrusive demeanour as a companion, and the merits of his productions, had introduced Dr. Douglas, even at an early period  
of

life, to the society and friendship of the most eminent characters in the political and literary world. He was a member of the famous literary club, and held a place among the party at the St. James's Coffee-House. The following lines in Goldsmith's "Retaliation," are complimentary to this bishop :

" Here Douglas retires his toils to relax,  
The scourge of impostors, the terror of quacks."

His writings are distinguished by accuracy of knowledge, correctness of judgment, and terseness of expression. He is always clear and impressive, but seldom eloquent. His learning is extensive and correct, and he displays it with unaffected ease, on such occasions alone as demand its exercise. In fulfilling the duties of his station, and in all the relations of domestic life, he was remarkable for benignity of temper and suavity of manners ; and displayed, in every situation and every circumstance of life, the united attributes of the Christian, the scholar, and the gentleman. He was succeeded by

JOHN FISHER, D. D. and F. S. A. the present bishop, who was born in 1748. The first part of his education he received at Peterborough, but finished his classical studies in St. Paul's school. In 1766 he became a scholar at Peterhouse, Cambridge, where he took his degree of bachelor of arts in 1770, and three years afterwards was chosen fellow of St. John's College. Here he remained chiefly occupied in teaching, till 1780, when he was appointed one of the preceptors to his Royal Highness Prince Edward, now Duke of Kent. Almost immediately afterwards he was nominated one of the chaplains to his Majesty, having previously taken the degree of bachelor of divinity. In 1786 he was made canon of Windsor, and next year married Dorothea, daughter and heiress of J. F. Scrivener, Esq. of Sibson-Abbey in Suffolk. In 1803 he was installed bishop of Exeter, and held that see till his promotion to the bishopric of Salisbury. This prelate has continued preceptor to the Princess Charlotte of Wales since the year 1805.

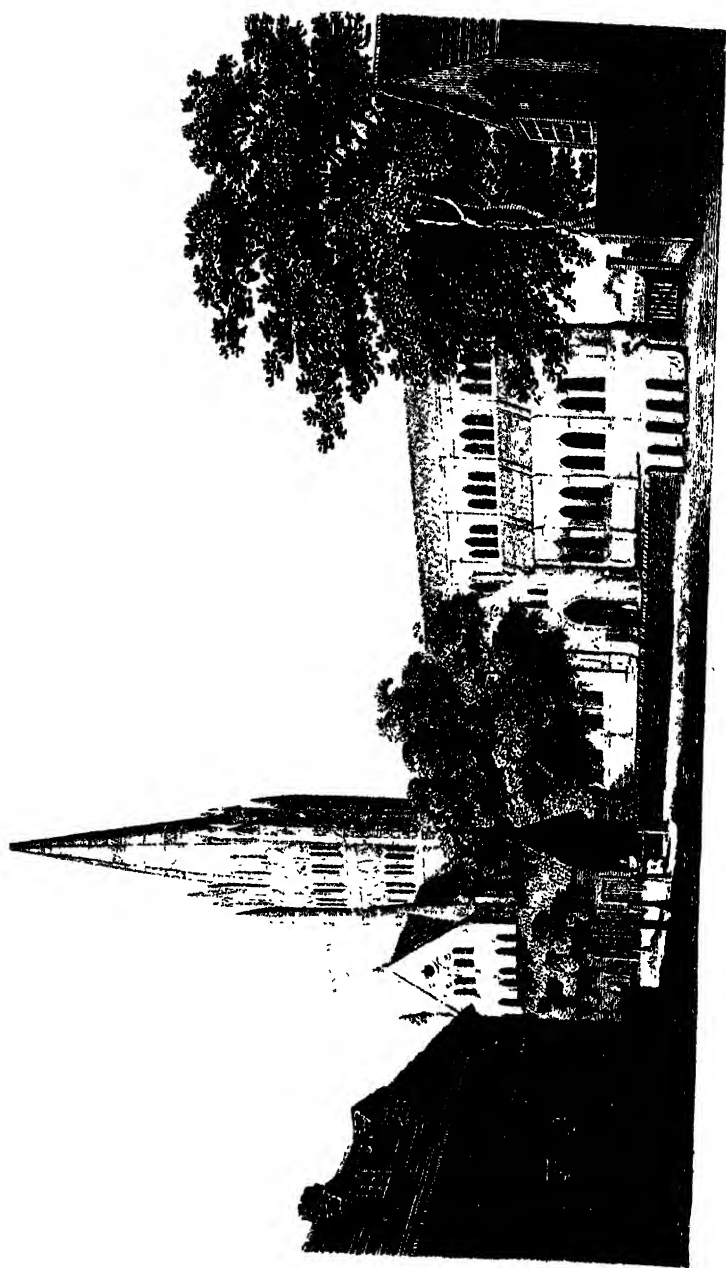


## DESCRIPTION OF THE CATHEDRAL, AND OF ITS MONUMENTS.

The cathedral church of Salisbury is justly regarded as a highly interesting specimen of the ecclesiastical architecture of the early part of the thirteenth century. It is also remarkable as being the most uniform, regular, and systematic edifice of the kind in England; for whilst all the other cathedrals consist of varied and heterogeneous parts, of dissimilar, and of ten very discordant styles and eras of architectural design, this of Salisbury is almost wholly of one species, and of one period of execution. Hence consistency and harmony are its characteristics; and hence the architectural antiquary views it with admiration, and analyzes its component parts with satisfaction and pleasure. As a structure of elegant design and scientific execution, it is worthy of the most critical examination of the architect and artist: the first will find that in construction and arrangement of parts it is calculated to afford him much useful and valuable information; and the latter will derive gratification and delight, in examining its forms, colour, effects of light and shade, grandeur of the whole, and beauty of the parts.

The whole edifice may be said to consist of four distinct, and separate portions, or members: 1. the church; 2. the tower and spire: 3. the cloister; and, 4. the chapter-house. Each of these has a peculiar and positive character and appropriation, and each is contradistinguished from the others by marked forms, and some shades of dissimilarity in style and ornament. Nearly the whole of the church displays an uniformity and correspondency of parts; and is apparently the execution of one age, from a regular and settled design. It consists of a nave, with two lateral aisles, a bold and lofty porch projecting on the north side, near the west end; a large transept, with an eastern aisle; a choir, with lateral aisles, and a second, or small transept with an aisle; a chapel at the east end, with an intermediate





intermediate vestibule, or double aisle terminating the choir. On the south side of the church are the following appendages; a cloister, chapter-house, consistory-court, and a vestry. Such are the chief portions, or features, of this edifice. Its exterior is distinguished by a systematic regularity of parts and uniformity of style, excepting the western front, and the upper portion of the tower, and the whole of the spire. These are of later date than the body of the church, and display a more decorated, and enriched character of architecture.

The west front consists of five divisions, or portions, longitudinally, and several irregular parts, horizontally. Four large buttresses, ornamented with niches, statues, &c. project from the elevation. In the central compartment, at the bottom, between two of those buttresses, is a portico consisting of three arches; one of which faces the chief entrance, and communicates with the nave of the church: over this is a series of arcades, with acute canopies: and immediately above is a large window, consisting of a central lofty pointed arch, with a smaller arch on each side. The upper division, or pediment, displays two windows, with two lights, or days to each; and three circular windows, or panels. To the right and left of the centre is another triple portico, with a doorway to each aisle; and over each are five different compartments of windows, blank arches, &c. Both angles of the building are terminated with square turrets, having their exteriors covered with columns, canopies, tracery, and pedestals; and their interiors occupied by stair-cases, surmounted by a central spire, and four pinnacles, at the angles. Each transept is divided, in elevation, into four compartments, with acute pediments in the centre, and pinnacles at the angles. A series of double windows continue all round the aisles, whilst the upper division, or portion over the roof of the aisles, is lighted by a continued series of windows of three openings, to each.

The tower, above the roof of the church, consists of two divisions, and its whole surface is decorated with pilasters, columns, canopies, &c. It is crowned with four octangular pinnacles, with

crockets at the angles ; and from its centre rises a lofty *spire*. This is adorned with crockets and ribs at each angle, with clustered pilasters and pinnales, at the base, and three bands of tracery at nearly equal divisions between the base and summit. The two uppermost stories, or compartments of the tower, and the whole of this spire, are evidently of later erection than the church and the lower story of the tower. The style of architecture is more elaborate ; and some of the parts are precisely of the same character as the justly admired crosses erected by King Edward I. It seems that the architect of this spire was ambitious of carrying its apex higher than any other similar building of stone\* in England ; and though it is not of equal altitude to that of St. Stephen's Church in Vienna, or that at Strasburgh ; † yet its vast height has rendered it a subject both of scientific and vulgar popularity. From the ground to the highest point, Salisbury spire is 404 feet, as ascertained by Colonel John Wyndham in 1684. Other accounts specify the height at 400, and at 410 feet ; but the Colonel's statement appears to have been ascertained with great care and precision. That a structure of such vast altitude, and narrow dimensions, should have swerved from the perpendicular is not surprising ; but its long durability and solidity are proofs of admirable skill and science in the architect. Besides, this spire does not appear to have been part of the original design ; for if not " an after thought," it was certainly erected at a period posterior to the tower and church. To raise such a mass of stone was at once an arduous and dangerous experiment. It demanded the utmost power of science and courage to under-  
take

\* The tower and spire of *Old St. Paul's Church, London*, said to have been constructed in 1221, was 520 feet in height ; but it consisted mostly of timber and lead. The height of the dome of the present church, to the top of the cross, is 370 feet.—[See *History and Description of St. Paul's Cathedral*, by Edmund Aikin, with Plans, Elevations. &c. 4to. 1813.]—The Monument, in London, is 202 feet in height.

† That at Vienna is said to be 465 feet high ; and that of Strasburgh 456 feet.

take and accomplish the task : but it has now braved the storm of at least five centuries ; and, if carefully superintended, may remain double that period.

A settlement has taken place in the piers at the south-west and north-west angles of the tower, and the upper part has declined. It was accurately ascertained in the year 1681, that the centre apex of the spire is twenty-two inches and three-eighths out of the perpendicular from the middle of the base : but as no variation has been found since then, it is concluded that the work is safe and permanent. At the base of the spire the wall is about two feet in thickness ; and at the top the stones are only nine inches thick. The whole interior is fitted up with timber-work, curiously and ingeniously constructed. In several parts are bands, or braces of iron, to strengthen and secure the fabric. The mode of ascending to the top of this spire is by ladders placed within it, till about thirty feet of the summit, where is a small door, and from which the ascent is on the outside. The situation and appearance must be terrific ; yet many persons have voluntarily and daringly clambered to the top, even in a state of intoxication.

On the south side of the church are the *Cloisters* and *Chapter-House* ; the first is a large square, covered with a lofty vaulted ceiling, and separated from a square area by a series of unglazed windows. It measures about 190 feet within the walls : on the eastern side it communicates, by a vestibule, with the Chapter-house, a lofty, light and elegant piece of architecture. This is of octagonal form, with a small clustered column in the centre, and having eight large windows between as many buttress piers. A stone seat surrounds the interior ; and at the east end, facing the entrance, is a second stone seat raised above the former, and separated by columns into seven distinct seats. A series of arcades, with columns and arches, extend round the lower part between the seat and the sills of the windows. Over these arches are several specimens of ancient sculpture in bold basso, and alto-relievo : these represent various passages of the sacred writings ; and some of them are executed with great spirit and skill. Several

ral busts also are attached to these arches, and are highly curious both as specimens of ancient sculpture, and of character and expression.

The inside of the church contains some objects, besides the monuments, entitled to notice and description. At the west-end, over the central door-way, is a lofty window, filled with modern painted, or rather stained-glass. This was executed by William Eggington, and presented by William Benson Earle, Esq. and it is much to be lamented that it is very injurious to the effect of the church. The colours are so bright and gaudy, that they destroy all that repose and serene harmony which are essential to the proper effect of a large church. Two windows at the east end of the church are also filled with coloured glass: one from a design by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and the other from a picture by Mortimer. The first represents the Resurrection, and shews a full-length figure of the Saviour just bursting from the tomb; and as the time is night, the artist has rendered the whole composition dark and sombre. A light, or glory, emanates from the Sacred Redeemer; and the whole effect is managed with singular skill and taste. When Gilpin visited Salisbury, this window was not finished; but had that accomplished writer and critic seen it he would have commended the artists.\* Of the other, or upper window, painted by Pearson, from a design by Mortimer, and representing a group of figures raising the Brazen Serpent, we cannot speak in terms of praise. As a composition and as a picture, it displays strong traits of merit: but its situation, materials, and adaptation, are all objectionable, and injurious to the effect of the choir.

The stalls, bishop's throne, organ-screen, and organ, are all of modern date, and all betray marks of their origin. Some of the carving in the wood-work is in a good style; and parts of the organ-screen are beautiful: but the form of the organ-case is bad and inelegant. It is a discordant piece of patch-work, and totally out of harmony with the building. Beneath the north and south arches under the tower are two screens, which have been placed

\*Observations on the Western parts of England."

placed there to strengthen the piers: these are adorned with rich open-work in their spandrils; and on the sides with columns, flutings, canopies, niches, and other ornaments.

According to Price's Plans and Elevations, the following are the measurements of the principal parts of the cathedral: extreme length from east to west 480 feet: width of the large transept 232 feet: west front 115 feet: height of nave and transepts 95 feet: of the tower to the top of the parapet-wall, 210: spire 190 feet: width of the nave and choir 35 feet: of the great transept, including its aisle, 59 feet.\*

**MONUMENTS.**—The interior of this cathedral contains a great number and variety of sculphral monuments, some of which are curious and interesting as specimens of the arts and costume of different eras; and also on account of the celebrity of the persons whose memories they were designed to perpetuate. As already mentioned, many bishops of the see have been interred within the walls; and several of their tombs are supposed to exhibit at once portraits of their heads, and correct representations of their ecclesiastical habiliments. Here are likewise numerous monuments of characters, illustrious for their military prowess, and for their genius and improvements in science, art, or literature. Some of these are of ancient, and others of later date; and it is much to be regretted that of the former, in particular, many have suffered greatly by their removal from other parts of the church, as in re-erecting them various portions of the same, or of separate monuments, have been so confounded, or blended with each other, that it is difficult to appropriate them to their respective possessors. Several of these, indeed, present a heterogeneous

\* In the preceding description we have been very brief; but have endeavoured to convey correct ideas. Without plates it is impossible to afford satisfactory information respecting the style and peculiarities of a cathedral, or of any other large building; nor can we with any propriety enter into criticisms on controverted points. A copious history and description of this church, its ancient monuments, &c. with above thirty engravings, are preparing for publication by Mr. Britton.



gencous mass of the most dissimilar styles, which clearly evince their component parts to have been the work of different and distant periods. A few of the more ancient of these tombs are destitute of inscriptions, and are so rude in their form, as to indicate a much higher antiquity than the cathedral itself.

To enumerate all the monuments in the church, or to describe even a few of them at full length, would occupy a greater space in our pages than the prescribed limits of this work will admit. We must content ourselves therefore with a cursory notice of the more remarkable among them, whether considered in relation to their design and execution, or to the eminence of the persons to whose memory they have been erected.

Against the western wall, on the south side of the grand entrance, is a marble monument, supporting a statue of Hibernia with her appropriate symbols. It was raised in honour of *Thomas, Lord Wyndham*, of Finglass, in Ireland, who was the youngest son of John Wyndham, Esq. of Norrington in this county, and died November 24, 1745, in the 66th year of his age.

On the other side of the western entrance is a black marble monument to the memory of *D'Aubigny Turberville*, M. D. and of his wife; the former died December 15, 1696, and the latter April 21, 1694.

A plain coffin-shaped tomb, under the arch nearest the west end, is commonly supposed to be that which contained the bones of *Bishop Herman*, and to have been brought from Old Sarum, as well as the tombs of Bishops Roger, Josceline, and Osmund, the removal of which has been already mentioned.

Under the next arch, on the same side, is another very ancient tomb, with the figure of a bishop in pontificalibus, and in the act of piercing a dragon with his crosier. Round it is a border of birds and foliage. This tomb is conjectured to belong to *Bishop Josceline*.

Next it is placed the monument of the celebrated *Bishop Roger*. It is composed of blue speckled marble, and supports the

the figure of a bishop in his ecclesiastical robes, having his right hand raised as if giving the blessing, while his left hand grasps the crosier. On the perpendicular sides, or edge, an inscription is cut in large letters, supposed to be a mixture of Saxon and Roman capitals, which are thus read by Gough :

*Flent hodie Salisberie quia decedit ensis  
Justitie pater ecclesie Salisburiensis,  
Dum vixit, miseros aluit fastusque potentum  
Non timuit, sed clava fuit terrorque nocentum,  
De ducibus, de nobilibus, primordia duxit,  
Principibus propeque tibi qui gemma reluxit.*

Another line on the outer robe of this bishop is read by the same authority, and by Leland, as follows :

*Affer opem devenies in idem.\**

\* Leland's Itinerary, Vol. III. fol. 64, p. 91.—Archæologia, Vol. II. 190, 191, where are the following remarks on the epitaph :—" Such was the prosperous situation of our prelate under this prince (Henry I.) in which there is every thing to justify the elogia which compose this epitaph. His great influence with his sovereign, and his mutual esteem for him, is recorded in the words *principibus gemma reluxit*. His administration of justice entitled him to the name of *ensis justitie*. His munificence to his infant church to that of *pater ecclesie Salisburiensis*. His impregnable fortifications, as well as his irreproachable conduct, made that *non timuit fastus potentum* ; as his high rank in the state made him *clava terrorque nocentum*. We are to presume that with his great wealth, *miseros aluit*, (not to mention his religious foundations) and considering what a reverse he underwent in the next reign *dum vixit* is not without meaning. The words inscribed on the front of his robe more strongly mark the distresses of this prelate's declining age : *Affer opem devenies in idem*, is an earnest address to the sympathy of the spectators' warning them at the same time of the uncertainty of human events. The conclusion, *propeque tibi gemma reluxit* seems an address to the church, reminding her of the lustre he reflected on her while he presided as bishop in her former situation at Old Sarum. My only difficulty is about the noble descent ascribed to him in the words *de ducibus de nobilibus primordia duxit*. But he may have been the younger son of some noble family in Normandy, which the monks may have known from evidences not noticed by general historians, or they may have introduced it here for rhyme sake. He died December the 4th, 1139."—See also Gough's Sep. Men.

Under

Under the next arch is an ancient altar-tomb with a plain slab on the top. It is constructed of purbeck marble, and is adorned with panelling and tracery: it had shields formerly.

Nearer the east end, on the same side, is the monument of *Bishop Beauchamp*, which was removed to this spot at the time of the late alterations, from his chapel on the south side of the Lady Chapel. This tomb is also ornamented with rich panelling and shields, three on each side. Bishop Beauchamp died in 1481.

Next is the tomb of *Robert, Lord Hungerford*, removed with his remains from the north wall of the Lady Chapel, where he was originally interred in 1403. It has a fine statue in alabaster.

The next, on the same side, is the monument of *Lord Stourton*, who was executed for murder in the reign of Philip and Mary. It is a plain altar-tomb, with three holes on each side, said to indicate the three wells, or sources of the river Stour, and was removed from the east end of the church at the time of the late alterations.

Next is another altar-tomb, supporting the figure of a bishop habited in his episcopal robes. It formerly stood in the north aisle of the great transept, and is conjectured to belong to *Walter de la Wyle*, whose death happened in 1271.

Under the adjoining arch is an altar-tomb of wood, on which is placed a figure of a knight, executed in stone, and habited in a coat of mail, with a round helmet somewhat flattened at the top, and covering his mouth as one of the Temple Knights. At his side is a sword; and upon an antique shield or, are embossed five leopards rampant, azure, three, two, and one. This ancient monument is conjectured to be that of *William Longspec*, Earl of Sarum, who is said to have been the first person buried in this cathedral. He was the natural son of Henry II. by the celebrated Rosamond. The original site of this monument was in the Lady Chapel.\*

Opposite to this monument, on the north side, is an altar-tomb  
to

\* Vide Ante, p. 152.

to the memory of *Lord Cheney*, who was one of the executors of Bishop Beauchamp, and originally buried in the Beauchamp chapel. His figure is sculptured in alabaster, and appears dressed in plated armour, with the hands raised, as if in the act of supplication. His lordship was advanced to the dignity of a baron in the third year of Henry VII. The exact period of his death is not recorded.

Adjoining, on the same side, is a large double altar-tomb, erected in honour of *Sir Walter Hungerford* and his Lady. This monument formerly stood within the iron chapel, which was removed in 1778, into the choir by the Earl of Radnor, who is descended from the Hungerford family by the female line. This tomb formerly contained some engraved brasses; and at present has several shields, with an inscription at the foot.

On the north side of this tomb is a large marble slab, having three brasses, commemorative of different persons of the Hungerford family.

Next is an altar-tomb, with a large black marble slab on the top, inscribed, *Anno M.XC.IX*. It is supposed to be that of *Bishop Osmund*, brought originally from Old Sarum, and placed in the Lady Chapel, whence it was removed to its present situation.

The monument of *John de Montacute*, Earl of Salisbury, adjoins on the west side. It is an altar tomb, supporting the figure of a knight in armour, with a pointed helmet of mail, gauntlets, sword, piked shoes, and a lion at his feet. Round the tomb was formerly shields.

Opposite to the tomb of Bishop Josceline, on the north side of the nave, is the monument of a *choral bishop*. It consists of a slab of stone supporting the effigy of a boy, habited in episcopal robes, with a mitre on his head, and a crosier in his hand. At his feet is the figure of a dragon with his head reflex to his tail, probably in allusion to that passage in the Psalms, where it is said "Thou shalt tread on the Lion and dragon," meaning thereby the faithful, or children of God.

This

This monument was discovered about the year 1680, on the removal of the seats near the pulpit under which it was supposed to have lain for some centuries neglected, as the memory of its existence had long been entirely lost. When found, it excited much speculation concerning its actual intention; but no satisfactory explanation of the subject was suggested till the Rev. John Gregory, chaplain to Bishop Duppa, unfolded the whole matter after a laborious search into the ancient archives of the church. The result of his investigation explained a remarkable custom practised in early times, of electing annually from among the children of the choir, a chorister bishop, whose authority lasted from the day of St. Nicholas to Innocents' day, at night. This boy-bishop not only bore the name, and held all the state of a regular bishop, but likewise exercised some of the most important functions of the episcopal office; and in the event of his death, during his prelacy, was buried with all the honour and pomp due to his high station. The other children of the choir assumed the style and dignity of prebends, and performed every service of the cathedral, with the exception of the mass. Upon the eve of the Innocents' day the chorister bishop and his little prebends walked in procession to the church, preceded by the dean and canons, and the chaplains. On this occasion the youthful prelate seated himself on the throne, while his fellows disposed themselves on the highest benches, the resident canons bearing the incense, and the minor canons the tapers. Next day a similar solemnity took place, and terminated with the resignation of the fictitious bishop \*.

At the feet of this monument is a large marble slab, on which is placed the effigy of a knight templar in armour, and having his legs crossed. It has no inscription, but is traditionally said to have

\* For a more detailed account of this custom the reader is referred to the "Antiquities of Salisbury and Bath," and also to Knight's Life of Collet, &c. We shall only, therefore, quote from the Legend of St. Nicholas, in whose honour it was instituted, the story upon which it was founded.

"After

At the foot of this monument is a large marble slab, on which is placed the effigy of a knight templar in armour, and having his legs crossed. It has no inscription, but is traditionally said to have been raised in honour of *William Longspec*, (eldest son of the Earl of that name,) who was slain at the recapture of *Damietta* by *Soldan*, in the year 1249.

Against the south wall is a mural monument on *Mrs. Eleanor Sadler*, with her statue painted black, and kneeling within a niche. This lady died January 30, 1622, aged 80 years.

Adjoining the former is the monument of *Lord Chief Justice Hyde*, with his bust in marble placed upon it. His lordship died May 1, 1665.

Near the above is a brass on the floor, to the memory of Bishop *Alexander Hyde*, who, as already mentioned, was a native of this city, and died September 11, 1667.

Against the wall, adjoining, is the monument of *Henry Hyde*, who died March 4, 1650.

Against the west wall of the great south transept, is placed a  
VOL. XV.—*July*, 1813. N marble

ed. "After thys the Byshop of the cytee of Myne deyed. And other byshpes assembled for to purveye to thys chyrche a bysshop. And there was among the other a bysshop of grete auctoritey, and all the eleccyon was in hym. And when he had warned all for to be in fastings in prayer. The byshop herde that nyghte a voys: whyche said to hym, that at the hour of matynes, he sholde take hede to the dores of the chyrche. And hym that should fyrste come to the chyrche, and have the name of Nycholas they should sacre him byshop; and he showed thys to the other byshops and admonested theym, for to be all in prayers, and he keped the doores: and thys was a marvellous thyng. For at hour of matynes lyke as he had be sent from God, Nycholas aris to fore all others; and the Byshop toke hym, when he was come; and demanded of hym his name; and he whych was symple as a dove inclyned his hede, and sayd I have to name Nycholas. Thenne the Bysshop sayd to hym, Nycholas, servaunt and frende of God: for your holynes ye shall be bysshop of thys place, and syth they broughte hym to the chyrche (how be it that he refused it strongely) yet they seth im in the chayer, and he folowed as he did before in alle thynges of humylitey and honest of manners" &c. Golden Legend, fol. xxix. b. Ed. Jul. Notary 1503.

marble slab, to the memory of *Robert Hayes*, youngest brother to *James*, Earl of Carlisle. He died in September 1625.

South from this is another marble slab, to the memory of *Miles Sandys*, who deceased August 9, 1632, aged 22.

A third marble slab against the same wall commemorates *Charles Langford*, one of the fellows of Winchester College. He died A. D. 1635.

Against the south wall of the great transept is a mural slab of marble, in honour of *Bishop Thomas*, whose death happened June 20, 1766.

A small marble monument, also placed against the south wall, was erected to the memory of *Bishop Hume*, his lordship's first wife, and three of their daughters. This bishop died June 26, 1782.

In the south aisle of the great transept is a stately monument of stone and marble, said to be raised in honour of *Bishop Bridport*. The tomb is altar-shaped, and supports an effigy in pontificalibus sculptured in alabaster. On the sides of the tomb are eight niches, and the arch over it has its outer mouldings charged with birds holding scrolls. This monument is by some ascribed to Bishop Ayscough.

Near this, against the south wall, is a large marble monument, to the memory of *Sir Richard Mompesson*, and Dame Catharine, his wife, whose effigies are placed thereon. Various parts of the monument are richly gilt and painted. Sir Richard died in October, 1627.

Nearly adjoining the former is the monument of *Bishop John Davenant*, who died the 20th of April, 1640. It is a large marble slab, with two marble pillars, and is decorated with a variety of architectural ornaments.

An altar tomb of freestone under an arch of the choir, and now obscured by wainscot, commemorates *Bishop Capon*, whose death occurred October 6, 1557.

Against the west wall of the small transept is a marble monument, with a bust on the top, erected to the memory of *Seth Ward*, Bishop of this See, who died January 6, 1688; and underneath

derneath is a marble slab, inscribed to the memory of Seth Ward, treasurer and canon residentiary of the cathedral, whose decease happened May 11, 1690.

In the south wall of this transept is fixed a flat marble slab, which bears an inscription, in honour of *Edward Davenant*, Esq. brother to Bishop Davenant. He died June 2, 1639, aged seventy.

Adjoining is a handsome marble monument, with a large urn in a niche, erected to the memory of *Dr. John Clarke*, Dean of Sarum, who died February 4, 1757.

On the east side of this transept is a handsome and very curious monument, traditionally said to commemorate *Bishop Ayscough*. His figure, habited in pontificalibus, lies on a low altar-tomb, or stone coffin, under a canopy composed of four arches, supported by slender distinct columns. The spandrils of the arches are charged with representations in basso relievo of various incidents in the life of the bishop.

Opposite to this monument, is that of *Bishop William York*. It consists of a large slab of black marble, placed under a wide ogee arch, the exterior moulding of which is adorned with finials and crockets. The brass is gone. Bishop York died, A. D. 1256.

Under the arch adjoining is the *Hungerford chapel*, part of which formerly stood in the nave over the tombs of Walter, Lord Hungerford and his lady, and was removed to its present situation in 1778, by the present Earl of Radnor. The original chapel was erected about the year 1429. The present chapel, or rather seat, consists of a series of iron bars, supporting a canopy; and charged in many places with shields of arms. Around the summit is a continued row of pediments, pinnacles, &c. with shields of arms\*.

Opposite to this chapel, on the north side of the choir is another chantry chapel, founded by *Bishop Audley*, in 1520, the

N 2

work-

\* A plate, with a long account of this monument, is published in Gough's Sepulchral Monuments, Vol. II. p. 159, &c.



workmanship of which has attracted much admiration. The founder, died August 23, 1524. This is certainly the most elegant object in the whole church.

West from the Audley chapel, is a monument commonly ascribed to *Bishop Bingham*, the second prelate of the new See, who died in the year 1247; and lies under a most elegant arch, adorned with angels in a sitting posture, for crockets, and surmounted by a rich purfled finial. At each side are two rich pointed arches; whose finials are struck off. The wall forming the back of this monument displays some beautiful perforated tracery work. The brasses on the large marble slab, which covers the grave, are now gone.

A monument for *Bishop Wyckamptton* is placed against the south wall of the church, at the eastern extremity of the aisle. This bishop died in 1284; but the style of the tomb is of a much later date.

At the eastern end of the south aisle stands a very noble monument composed of various kinds of marble, and supporting a number of statues, some of which are supposed to be portraits, as they are sculptured in a superior style. Under this monument are interred *Edicard, Earl of Hertford*, son to Edward, Duke of Somerset, uncle and regent to King Edward VI. and Catherine his countess, the former of whom died the 6th of April, 1621, and the latter 22d of January, 1563. Here are likewise buried *John, Duke of Somerset*, who died June, 1675, and the Lady Elizabeth Seymour, daughter of Josecline Percy, the last Earl of Northumberland, and wife of Charles, Duke of Somerset. This lady died in December 1722. The present Duke of Northumberland, her great grandson, has lately been at considerable expense in repairing and beautifying this splendid tomb.

In a similar situation, at the western end of the north aisle, is another gorgeous monument, erected by Edward Gorges, Lord Dundalk, in Ireland, in memory of his parents, *Sir Thomas Gorges, Bart.* of Longford Castle, in this county, who died March 30, 1610, and of *Helena Snachenberg, Marchioness Dowager of Northampton,*

ampton, his wife, who died April 25, 1635. This monument is constructed of stone, and exhibits the figures of a man in armour, and of a lady in widow's dress, lying under a canopy, supported by Corinthian pillars, and adorned with figures emblematic of fame, and of the four cardinal virtues.

Near the above, under an arch in the north wall, lies *Bishop Roger de Mortival*, who died March 14, 1329, his tomb is coffin-shaped, and has a cross embossed on the lid.

A small marble slab, under one of the windows of the north aisle commemorates *James Touchet, Lord Audley*, and Earl of Castlehaven, whose decease occurred May 6, 1769.

On the north side of the choir under an arch, is an altar-tomb with a figure recumbent on a mat. Another figure, with a scroll, is painted on the wall; and on the upper part of the arch are three shields, inscribed I H S—X P S—M R—1554. On the sides of the tomb are five panels; the central one inscribed D. L. and the other four T. B. This monument was erected in honour of *Dr. Thomas Bennet*, precentor of this church; and an eminent polemical divine.

In the north transept of the choir is a monument of purbeck marble ascribed by tradition to *Bishop Poore*, the founder of this cathedral. It formerly stood on the north side of the old altar, under a niche in the wall, and was removed hither during the late alterations. The correctness of the appropriation of this monument to Poore is more than doubtful, as the style of the tomb underneath the effigy is of much later date than the commencement of the thirteenth century, and it is well ascertained that the remains of this prelate were deposited in the cathedral at Durham.

In this transept are three grave-stones, inlaid with brasses, and having inscriptions to the memory of *Bishops Wyvil, Gheast, and Jewel*. These stones were removed from the choir in the year 1684.

Under a flattened arch, adorned with panelling, on the north side of the choir, and partly in the great transept, is the monument of

*Bishop Mitford*, who died in 1407. The tomb is altar-shaped, and has been inlaid with brasses, now entirely destroyed.

Near the eastern angle of the great north transept is placed a handsome modern mural monument, in memory of *Walter Long*, Esq. barrister at law, and judge of the sheriffs' court of London, who died March 20, 1807. This monument was designed and executed by John Flaxman, R. A. In a recess, in the centre, is a medallion of the deceased, with an inscription beneath ; and at the sides are two statues in niches,

Beneath a canopy against the north wall of the same transept is an altar-tomb of stone with an effigy thereon in pontificalibus. It is ornamented with panelling and shields, and is said to have been erected in honour of *Bishop Blyth*, who died August 23, 1499. This monument was originally placed under the former altar, and was removed hither during the late repairs.

Against the west wall is another monument, also executed by Flaxman. It commemorates *William Benson Earle*, F. R. S. F. A. S. who was born July 7, 1740, and died March 21, 1796. On this tomb is sculptured in relief a female figure, holding back a curtain to discover the good Samaritan.

Near this, a handsome monument is erected in honour of the celebrated *James Harris*, Esq. who died December 22, 1780, aged seventy-two. Over the inscription, appears a fine figure of moral philosophy, supporting a medallion of the deceased. This monument was executed by Bacon.

A small marble slab with a long inscription commemorates another *James Harris*, whose death occurred in 1674 ; also several other individuals of the same family.

The other persons of note who have monuments in this church are *John Stephens*, Mus. Doc. organist of this cathedral, who died December 16, 1760.

*John Priault*, D. D. formerly Archdeacon of Sarum, who died in the year 1674.

Samuel

\* In Stothard's interesting work of "Monumental Effigies," are etchings of some of the foregoing ancient statues.

Samuel Rolleston, M. A. Archdeacon of Sarum, and canon residentiary, who died May 2, 1766; also his son James, who died June 29, 1771.

*Rowland Noel*, D. D. Dean of Sarum. He died June 26, 1786.

*John Clarke*, D. D. Dean of Sarum, who died February 4, 1757.

*Henry Stebbing*, Archdeacon of Wilts, and chancellor of the diocese of Sarum, who died in 1763.

*Joseph Gribble*, M. A. who died May, 1767.

*Henry Hcle*, M. D. who died June 26th, 1778.

*The Rev. William Brown*, who died July 16, 1784.

*Alexander Ballantyne*, M. D. who died in 1783.

The following noble personages are interred in the choir, but are not distinguished by any monument.

*Henry, Earl of Pembroke*, interred March 6, 1601. *Mary, Countess of Pembroke*, November 13, 1621. *William, Earl of Pembroke*, who died April 10, and was interred May 7, 1630. *Philip, Earl of Pembroke*, interred December 24, 1669. *William, Earl of Pembroke*, interred August 5, 1674. *Catherine, Countess of Pembroke*, interred February 28, 1677. *Lady Ann Herbert*, interred November 18, 1678. *Philip, Earl of Pembroke*, interred September 10, 1683. *Margaret, Countess of Pembroke*, interred December 9, 1706. *Barbara, Countess of Pembroke*, August 9, 1722. *Thomas, Earl of Pembroke*, January 31, 1732. *Charlotte, Viscountess Windsor*, interred November 23, 1733. *The Right Honourable Viscount Windsor*, February 9, 1758: and *The Right Honourable Viscountess Windsor*, who was interred in December 1776.

Beneath the pavement of the Lady Chapel were formerly discovered several ancient stone coffins, some of which contained perfect skeletons of the human body, and at the head of each a chalice and a patten. One of these was made of silver and gilt, and in the same coffin was a large gold ring, set with an agate;

also the head of a crosier of wood, nearly decayed. On the paten is an engraved representation of a hand, evidently meant for that of a bishop. The whole are supposed to have belonged to the corpse of Bishop Longspee, son of the Earl of Salisbury, of that name.

The different members belonging to the cathedral, are a bishop, a dean, a precentor, a chancellor, three archdeacons, a sub-dean, a sub-chantor, forty-five prebendaries, four vicars and petty canons; six singing men; eight choristers, and an organist, besides sextons, vergers, and other inferior officers. The dean, together with six residentiary canons, who are chosen from among the dignitaries and prebendaries, constitute the chapter, and have the superintendence and management of all affairs connected with the church. In ancient times the Bishops of Salisbury held the dignity of precentors to the Archbishops of Canterbury; and since the reign of Charles II. they have been hereditary chancellors of the garter. \*

The diocese of Salisbury at present contains the whole of Wiltshire, with the exception of two parishes, Kingswood and Whitesbury;† and all Berkshire, except the parish of Chilton, and the chapelry of Little Faringdon, in Langford parish ‡, making all together five hundred and forty-four parishes, of which number one hundred and nine are impropriations. The arch-deaconries are those of Salisbury, Wiltshire, and Berkshire, the first comprising the deaneries of Salisbury, Amesbury, Chalk, Wilton, Wyly, and Pottern; the second, with the rectory of Minety, those of Avebury, Cricklade, Malmesbury, and Marlborough; and

\* Vide ante, p. 153.

† By omission only one of these parishes is mentioned in a former page. (163) as being without the diocese of Salisbury, though within Wiltshire. We therefore embrace this opportunity of rectifying our mistake, and of remarking that Kingswood parish belongs to the diocese of Gloucester, and Whitesbury to that of Winchester.

‡ Chilton is in the Deanery of Whitney, and diocese of Oxford; and Little Faringdon is a peculiary to the church of Lincoln.

and the last those of Abingdon, Newbury, Reading, and Wallingford, and the rectory of North-Moreton annexed.

*The Bishop's Palace*, near the south-eastern corner of the church, is a large irregular building, and is evidently the work of different ages. Almost every bishop, who has possessed the See for any length of time, has made alterations and enlargements to the building; and as many of these have been done without regard to style, or uniformity of the original part, the whole is an irregular, and heterogenous edifice. The late Bishop Barrington added some parts to the palace, and also made considerable improvements in the garden: the present noble dignitary has paid particular attention to the latter; and under his lordship's tasteful direction much improvement, as to picturesque effect, is likely to be produced. These gardens are on a large scale, and comprehend an area of several acres: part of which consists of a lawn, with a canal in the centre, surrounded by a walk, and interspersed with large elm, ash, and other indigenous and exotic trees. The whole is encompassed by a lofty wall, embattled on the east, south, and western sides, whilst the cathedral, cloisters, &c. close in the northern end. The magnificent church, with the elegant chapter house, constitute fine features, from various parts of the garden, and also from some of the windows of the palace. In the drawing-room of the latter, are several portraits of different bishops; the oldest of which is that of Bishop Duppa, and the latest that of the present prelate.

The COLLEGE of MATRONS, erected by Bishop Ward, stands near the entrance into the Close from the High Street. It is a strong regular building, with convenient gardens, and is appropriated to the reception of ten widows of clergymen, belonging to the established church, who are also supported by funds. The endowment made by the founder formerly amounted to 200l. per annum, but that sum has since been increased by various benefactions. This college is placed under the patronage of the bishop, dean, and chapter, who elect alternately in the event of a vacancy.

In concluding our account of the Close, it may be proper to observe, though the same fact has been adverted to already, that it constitutes a distinct civil, as well as ecclesiastical jurisdiction, from the city. Within its boundaries neither the mayor of Salisbury, nor the magistrates of the county, have any right of judicature; the Bishop, and the Dean and Canons, the Constable of the Church, the Precentor, Chancellor, Archdeacon, Clerk of the Bishop's Court, and the Bailiff of the Liberties, together with two Law Officers elected by the Bishop, and the Dean and Chapter, being vested with full powers of justices of the peace, and entitled to hold courts either for the decision of pleas, or the punishment of misdemeanors. These privileges were conferred on the ecclesiastical community by James I. who, besides, gave them a jurisdiction as far as Harnham-bridge; "and within the guildhall and jail of the city."\*

*Harnham-Bridge* is thrown across the river Avon, at a short distance from the southern wall of the Close, and connects Salisbury with the suburb of East-Harnham, which is said to have been a considerable village before the foundation of the new city.† The bridge is of ancient erection, and, as generally supposed, was first built by Bishop Bingham in the year 1244. Leland, alluding to this subject, observes: "Licens was get of the king by a Bishop of Saresbyri to turn the Kingges High Way to New Saresbyri, and to make a mayn bridge of right passage over Avon at Harnham. The chaunging of this way was the totale cause of the ruine of Old Saresbyri and Wiltoun."

On a small islet which divides the bridge into two parts, and which is formed by the main stream of the Avon, and an artificial channel, cut with the view of moderating the impetus of the floods, there was formerly a chapel, erected by the bishop last mentioned. Three chaplains were appointed to say mass here, and to receive the alms of the passengers by way of contribution towards defraying the expense of repairs, for which purpose a toll was also imposed upon all the salt brought to the market of Salisbury.

\* Vide Antc, p. 105—112.

† Ibid. 100.

bury. This impost continued to be paid so late as the reign of James I. Harnham-bridge is constructed of stone, and consists in all of ten large arches, six of which constitute its main division, and are of larger dimensions than those thrown across the collateral stream. The other principal bridges over the Avon at Salisbury are Fisherton-bridge and Craue-bridge, both of them stone structures of six arches each.\* These connect with the city the suburb of Fisherton, which contains so many of its public institutions, that we found it necessary to identify them in our previous description of the city. It may here be remarked, however, that it is a distinct parish from all those within the borough, and has a church peculiar to itself, which stands close to the north bank of the river Wyly, and is said to have been originally erected previous to the foundation of New Salisbury, though the present edifice is certainly of a much later date.† As a building it possesses no features demanding particular description.

**EMINENT NATIVES.**—Salisbury has given birth to many persons of eminence. Among others, the following names have acquired considerable celebrity:

**WALTER WINTERBURNE**, Cardinal of St. Sabin, was born about the year 1224. He had been bred a Dominican friar, and succeeded Cardinal Maklesfield in the dignity of provincial of that order. According to Fuller, Pitts characterizes this ecclesiastic as an acute philosopher, and one of the most profound casuistical and polemical writers of his age; qualities which induced Edward I. to name him his Confessor. He died at Genoa on his return from Rome, where he had gone to pay his respects to the Pope on his appointment as Cardinal, and was buried in  
that

\* All these bridges are noticed more than once in Leland's Itinerary, in substance exactly what is expressed in the text. Vol. III. fol. 60—118.

† Leland, Vol. III. fol. 58.—His words are—"There was a village at Fisherton over Avon or ever New Saresbyri was buildid, and had a parochio church ther as it yet hath."



that city ; but his body was afterwards brought over to England, and re-interred with great solemnity in London.

**WILLIAM HORMAN** was born in New-street about the middle of the fifteenth century, but the exact period is not recorded. He received the rudiments of his education at Winchester School, whence he removed to New College, Oxford, and attained the rank of fellow, A. D. 1477. This station, however, he resigned in 1485, when he was elected fellow and master of Eton College, of which he afterwards became provost. Here he devoted his whole time to the duties of his station, and the pursuits of literature and science. His works, which have reached our time, are eight in number, comprehending two Treatises on Anatomy, an Abridgement of the History of William of Malmesbury, and some poetical and critical pieces. Horman died April 12, 1535, and was buried in the chapel of Eton College.\*

**JOHN THORNBOROUGH, D. D.** Bishop of Worcester, was born here in 1552. After a course of education at the city free-school, he removed to Magdalen College, Oxford, at the age of eighteen. Having taken his degrees in arts, and entered into holy orders, he was constituted chaplain to the Earl of Pembroke, who bestowed upon him the rectory of Chilmark in this county. Through the same influence he received the appointment of chaplain in ordinary to the Queen, together with another benefice in Yorkshire. In 1589 he was promoted to the deanery of York ; and, in 1593, was installed Bishop of Limerick in Ireland. This dignity he held ten years, during which time he was so highly servicable to the government, that he was consecrated Bishop of Bristol in 1603, with permission to retain his deanery in commendam. Here he presided till the 17th of February, 1616, when he was promoted

\* Bale and Pitt, and following them Fuller, confound this Horman with one Godfrey Harman, who lived about the same time with our author, and wrote a comment on the divorces of Henry VIII. besides several other works ; but whose birth-place is uncertain, though he was most likely a native of Wiltshire.—*Antiquit. Sarisbur.* p. 235—6.—*Fuller's Worthies*, Vol. II. p. 450. *Nichols's Edition.*

promoted to the see of Worcester, which he enjoyed during the remainder of his life. He died July 9, 1641, leaving behind him several works in divinity, and three treatises on the advantages of the union between England and Scotland by the accession of James I. This bishop is also said to have excelled in chemistry, and to have written some tracts in that science, but none of them seem ever to have been published. Fuller says, "that he presented a precious extraction to King James, reputed a great preserver of health and prolonger of life."

GEORGE CORYAT, a Latin poet, and a topographer, who lived towards the close of the sixteenth century, was born in the parish of St. Thomas, and educated at the Free-school of this city. He was sent to Winchester College, whence he removed to New College, Oxford, and was chosen fellow in 1562. Having also entered into holy orders, he was presented to the rectory of Odcombe in Somersetshire, in June 1570; and, in 1594, was made prebend of Warthill, in the deanery of York. Most of his works were published by his son after his death, which happened at the parsonage-house of Odcombe, March 4, 1606. The principal of them were, "*Poemata Varia Latina*," highly esteemed for the elegance of their latinity; and "*Descriptio Angliæ, Scotiæ, et Hiberniæ*," which Queen Elizabeth honoured with her patronage.

MICHAEL MASCHIART or *Machiart*, another excellent Latin poet, and an able civilian, was born here about the middle of the sixteenth century. The early part of his education he received at Winchester-School; and finished his studies at New College, Oxford. Here he not only took the several degrees in arts, and entered into holy orders, but likewise became bachelor, and doctor of laws. In 1572 he obtained the vicarage of Writtle in Essex, where he continued to discharge the duties of his sacred station with great zeal and propriety, till his death in 1598. He wrote and published several tracts upon different subjects; and his poems were so far honoured with the approbation of Camden, as to be deemed worthy of quotation in his description of Clarendon Park.

*Nobilis est locus, cervis clausura, Saronani  
 Propter, et a claro vertice nomen habet.  
 Viginti hinc nemorum partita limite boscis  
 Ambitus est passus nulle cuique suus.*

The following translation is given by Gough :

A noble grove, the haunt of stags appears  
 By Saron's walls, and high its head uprears :  
 Full twenty more its boundaries inclose,  
 Which a long mile each for its circuit shows.

SIR TOBY MATTHEWS, a celebrated Jesuit and politician, who lived in the reign of James I. was the eldest son of Dr. Toby Matthews, Archbishop of York, and was born at Salisbury, October 3, 1577. At the early age of eleven years, having displayed "great ripeness of parts," he was matriculated as a member of Christ Church, Oxford, and obtained a student's place the year following. During the course of his studies here he acquired great distinction for his oratorical talents. He was honoured with the literary confidence of Bacon ; and having paid particular attention to the science of politics, he was employed by King James I. to negotiate the Spanish match, and afterwards created a knight by that monarch. Sir Toby was next engaged by Lord Strafford to assist him in the administration of Ireland, and executed the various functions committed to his management with great ability ; but incurred the high displeasure of the puritanical party. Having quitted Ireland when his patron resigned the government of that kingdom, he resided for many years in London, acting only as a spy for the pope, for which employment he was admirably qualified, as he possessed an excellent memory and a penetrating mind, with no small share of forwardness, though he always tempered his intrusions by a shew of politeness and affability. After acting (to use the words of the biographer) "a most heteroclit part upon the stage of life," Sir Toby died in 1655, in the English College of Jesuits at Gaunt in Flanders, whither he had retired at the commencement of the civil wars in  
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the reign of Charles I. Of the various pieces published by him in London, the principal were, "A Rich Cabinet of Precious Jewels,"—"The Life of St. Theresa,"—and a "Collection of Letters, &c." all of them dated in 1623.

DR. THOMAS BENNET, a distinguished English divine and writer, was born in 1673, and educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, where he took his degrees in arts, and was chosen fellow at a very early period of life. In 1695 he signalized himself by the composition of a Hebrew elegy on the death of Queen Mary, printed in the University Collection of Verses. About four years afterwards he engaged warmly in controversy against the Dissenters, and during the course of the contest published a variety of works, which gained him the character of an acute reasoner, and skilful controversialist. In 1700 a fortunate accident, joined to his celebrity as a polemical writer, led to his presentation to the rectory of St. James, at Colchester, where he acquired great popularity as a preacher. Here he remained nearly sixteen years; but, in 1716, he accepted the office of deputy-chaplain to Chelsea Hospital, having in the interim taken the degree of doctor in divinity. The following year the influence of Bishop Hoadley procured for him the vicarage of St. Giles, Cripplegate, London, which benefice he enjoyed till his death, an event that occurred by apoplexy on the 9th of October, 1728.

Dr. Bennet is represented by all his biographers as a man of excellent talents and extensive erudition, and is more especially famed for his familiar acquaintance with the Oriental and dead languages. He was likewise zealous and indefatigable in executing the duties of his profession; and though possessed of strong passions, and tinctured with the pride of superior learning, he was both a strict moralist and an agreeable companion. Of his multifarious works, many of them having an immediate reference to temporary discussions, have sunk into oblivion, but a few still continue to hold a place in the libraries of orthodox divines; for, though much esteemed by Bishop Hoadley, their  
sentiments

sentiments were completely at variance, both on doctrinal and political questions.

THOMAS CHUBB, another celebrated controversial writer, was likewise a native of Salisbury. His father, who carried on the trade of a glover in Harnham, apprenticed his son to the same occupation; but young Chubb afterwards choosing to change his business to that of a tallow chandler, was permitted to follow his inclination. In this pursuit he was accordingly employed as a journeyman for several years, during which time he appropriated his leisure hours to the acquisition of knowledge, and more particularly to the study of divinity. So eager, indeed, was his thirst for polemical disputation, that he formed a society for the discussion of those abstruse questions which then occupied the attention of theologians. When Mr. Whiston published the historical preface to his "Primitive Christianity Revived," Chubb not thinking that he had stated the arguments for the supremacy of the Father over the other Persons of the Trinity, with sufficient force and precision, determined to write a treatise upon the same subject himself. This piece being shewn to Mr. Whiston, he was so much pleased with the vigour and accuracy of reasoning it displayed, that he requested and obtained permission to make it public; and it accordingly appeared in 1715, under the title of "The Supremacy of the Father Asserted," &c. No sooner was the work known and read, than our author received many signal marks of public admiration. It ushered him into the acquaintance of several men of influence and fortune, as well as of genius, and ranked him among the most eminent controversialists of his age.

Encouraged by this success, Chubb continued his literary pursuits with increased avidity; and, in 1730, published a collection of tracts upon various moral and theological questions. Of this production, as a work of talent, Mr. Pope expressed the most favourable opinion, though he could not assent to the writer's conclusions. Many other pieces subsequently issued from

our author's pen, all of which bore unequivocal evidence of a strong and original mind. Unhappily, however, as he advanced in life, his views of Christianity underwent a change, not unfrequently the consequence of investigating mystical questions without the aid of extensive learning and profound erudition. Not content with vindicating the supremacy of the Father, he proceeded to examine the claims of Our Saviour to the honours of divinity, and seems to have died with strong doubts respecting the truth of the Divine mission. In some of his tracts, indeed, he argues decidedly in favour of Deism, and contends that the light of philosophy and reason is alone sufficient for directing the conduct of man in his progress through life. Chubb died on the 8th of February, in the year 1746-7, at the age of forty-seven.

HUMPHREY BECKHAM was born at Salisbury in the year 1588; and has accidentally acquired some local notoriety as a sculptor. As an uneducated boy his work might excite surprise: but from the specimen attached to the west end of St. Thomas's Church, we cannot, with propriety or justice, bear testimony either to his genius or talent. Both in design and execution the work is insipid and insignificant,

JOHN EEDES was born in 1609, and was educated at Oriel College, Oxford, where he took his degrees in arts, and entering into holy orders, received a benefice in the Isle of Shepey. On the breaking out of the rebellion, however, he was ejected, and imprisoned for several months: but at length recovering his liberty, he returned to his native city, and obtained the curacy of Broadchalk, which he held about two years, when he became vicar of Hele. The Rev. William Eyre, rector of St. Edmunds, having about this time written a treatise, entitled "*Vindiciæ Justificationis Gratiæ*:" it was answered by Eedes, in an excellent tract under the title of "*The Orthodox Doctrine concerning Justification*." This incident rendered him extremely obnoxious to the rector, who exerted all his influence to injure his opponent with the government, but without effect; so that he retained the vicarage of Hele till the year 1667, when his house was robbed, and himself murdered.

JOHN GREENHILL, a celebrated portrait-painter, is justly ranked among the eminent natives of Salisbury. He was descended from a respectable family, which had been settled for some time in this city, and was born about the year 1640. His instructor in painting was the famous Sir Peter Lely, under whose tuition he made such progress as to excite his master's jealousy. While scarcely twenty years of age, he copied Vandyke's picture of Killigrew with the dog, so accurately, both with respect to delineation and colouring, that good judges were frequently known to mistake the copy for the original. Greenhill was an engraver as well as a painter. Among the portraits executed by him extant, is a full length of Bishop Ward in his robes as chancellor of the garter: it is preserved in the town-hall of Salisbury. This artist died May 19, 1676, while he was yet in the prime of life, and rapidly advancing in the career of fame. Mrs. Behn, who admired his person more than his drawings, has perpetuated his memory in an elegy, which the reader will find printed in the "*Antiquitates Sarisburienses*."

RICHARD HAYTER, a theological writer, was the son of William Hayter, and born at Salisbury in 1611. Having acquired the rudiments of education at the Free-school here, he entered a commoner of Magdalen College, Oxford, where he took a degree in arts, and soon afterwards returned to his native city. His principal works were, "*An Inquiry respecting the meaning of the Revelation*," published in 1675; and a treatise, intitled "*Errata Mori: the Errors of Henry More, Doctor of Divinity*," contained in his Epilogue to his Exposition of the Revelation of St. John, &c., which was in the press at the time of his death. This event occurred in June, 1684.

WILLIAM LAWES, private musician to Charles I. was the son of Thomas Lawes, a vicar-choral in the cathedral church. The period of his birth is unknown; but Fuller states that he was instructed in his professional science under the famous Coperario. After completing his education, young Lawes obtained his first preferment in the choir of Chichester. In 1602 he was appointed one of the gentlemen of the Chapel Royal, and held that office till

till 1611, when he became chamber-musician to Prince, afterwards King, Charles. On the breaking out of the civil wars he adhered firmly to his master's cause, and was nominated a commissary in the royal army. Disdaining, however, to take advantage of the security from danger which this appointment was intended to afford him, he exposed himself boldly to the enemy's fire on every requisite occasion, and was killed at the siege of Chester in 1645. His death is said to have been so deeply bewailed by the king, that he put on "particular mourning" for him, though he was "already in mourning for his kinsman, Lord Bernard Stuart," who was slain at the same siege.

Of Lawes's various compositions in music, his anthem for four voices in Dr. Boyce's second volume is much superior to any of his other performances. Even this, however, is confused, and destitute alike of melody and harmony in many places, so that the praise bestowed on his works by his contemporaries, seems to indicate a very low state of musical criticism at the period when he lived.

HENRY LAWES, also a native of Salisbury, being bred to the same profession with his brother, William, became equally celebrated with him both as a musician and a composer. Many compositions were published in their joint names; but Henry likewise produced a great variety of pieces separately. He was, as well as his brother, a gentleman of the Chapel Royal, and one of King Charles the First's private musicians. Peck asserts, that Milton wrote his *Masque of Comus* at the request of Lawes, whose abilities and taste are much praised by that poet and by Waller. So high was his fame, indeed, that the best poets of his age were ambitious to have their verses set to music by him. His works were published chiefly under the title of "Ayres and Dialogues;" but, with a few exceptions, scarcely any thing resembling an air in any part of them. Henry Lawes supported himself during the Commonwealth by teaching music; and, at the Restoration, composed the coronation anthem. He died in October, 1662, soon after that event. Salisbury was also the birth-place of



**WILLIAM HARRIS**, D. D. an eminent historian and biographical writer, who was born about the year 1720. This gentleman received his education at Taunton, and embraced the profession of a clergyman of the dissenting church. His first settlement was at St. Looe, in Cornwall, whence he removed to Wells, and afterwards to Honiton, having been appointed preacher at Luppit, a village in the neighbourhood of that town. In this situation he remained till his death, which occurred in the year 1770.

Mr. Harris's writings are various; and some of them were ushered into the world in an anonymous form. Those for which he is particularly distinguished, are, his "Account of the Life of Hugh Peters," and his Historical and Critical Accounts of the Lives of James I. Charles I. Oliver Cromwell, and Charles II. all of which were published separately between the years 1750 and 1766. These works are written in imitation of the manner of Bayle, and have the merit of impartiality, and breathe a spirit of genuine liberty. Every instance of oppression or tyranny calls forth his most severe animadversion; and he at the same time inculcates the propriety of moderation in all acts of resistance to the legitimate government. Harris met with a liberal patron and steady friend in the celebrated Thomas Hollis, Esq. by whose solicitation the degree of doctor in divinity was conferred on him by the University of Glasgow.

**JAMES HARRIS**, the celebrated author of *Hermes*, and of other philological and philosophical works, was the eldest son of James Harris, Esq. by his second wife, Lady Elizabeth Ashley, who was third daughter of Anthony, Earl of Shaftesbury, and sister to the author of the *Characteristics*. He was born on the 20th of July, 1709. The early part of his education was received at Salisbury under the Rev. Mr. Hele, master of the grammar-school, who was long known and respected in the west of England as an instructor of youth. At the age of sixteen, young Harris removed to Oxford, where he passed the usual number of years as a gentleman commoner of Wadham College. His father,

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as soon as he had finished his academical studies, entered him at Lincoln's Inn, not intending him for the bar, but, as was then a common practice, meaning to make the study of the law a part of his education. When he had attained his twenty-fourth year, his father died; and this event, by rendering him independent in fortune, and freeing him from all control, enabled him to exchange the study of the law for the more congenial pursuits of classical learning and philosophy.

In the month of July, 1745, Mr. Harris was married to Miss Elizabeth Clarke, daughter, and eventually heiress, of John Clarke, Esq. of Sandford, near Bridgewater, in the county of Somerset. Five children were the issue of the marriage, of whom only two daughters, and the present Earl of Malmesbury, survived their father.

In 1761 Mr. Harris was chosen one of the representatives in Parliament for the borough of Christchurch. In the year following he accepted the office of one of the lords of the Admiralty, from whence he was promoted, in 1763, to be a lord of the Treasury. He remained in this situation until the ministry with which he was connected went out of office in 1765; and after that time he did not hold any employment until 1774, when he became secretary and comptroller to the Queen. He died on the 22d of December, 1780, in the seventy-second year of his age.

The writings of Mr. Harris display an intimate acquaintance with ancient literature, great acuteness of conception, and a mind imbued with the genuine spirit of philosophy. He is always learned, ingenious, and zealous for the detection of error and the support of virtue. But it is the great defect of Mr. Harris's mode of analysis, that it details the processes of reasoning, instead of expressing and enforcing its result. The time and the intellectual labour that might be profitably employed in enforcing and extending the application of some important truth are wasted in the construction of an ingenious dialogue, in which the ratiocination of an hour is diffused through a volume. It is not the province of philosophy to expound, but to concentrate,

every mental operation, and the attentive reader will find that the author of *Hermes* might have expressed the same truths, in the common order and language of philosophy, within the compass of a few pages, that in their present form are extended through half a quarto volume. The colloquial terseness, and quaint precision of the dialogue, deceive the reader into admiration of his profundity; and it is not till the termination of the *Essay*, that he discovers how much of what he has learned might be expressed in a single page of Johnson or Stewart. Warmly attached to music, Mr. Harris cultivated that fascinating art with much assiduity and effect. He established periodical concerts, or oratorios, in his own house at Salisbury, and thereby founded and encouraged a school in that city.

JOHN TOBIN was born at Salisbury in the year 1770. In 1785 he was articled to an eminent solicitor of Lincoln's Inn, on whose death he became a partner with three other clerks in the office, and afterwards entered into a new firm with his intimate friend Mr. Ange. While he performed the duties of his employment with punctilious care, Mr. Tobin's spontaneous attention and happiest hours were devoted to the drama. By taking a part in school performances, and visiting the theatre at Southampton, he had imbibed, even at an earlier period of life, an enthusiastic love of dramatic exhibitions; and as a sense of rectitude compelled him to the unremitted fulfilment of his professional engagements, the time devoted to dramatic study was stolen from the hours of repose and exercise. As neither his person nor his constitution were robust, progressive indisposition was the result of his incessant avocations, and soon arrived at such an alarming crisis, that by the advice of his physicians he first went into Cornwall, and afterwards embarked at Bristol for the West-Indies. The vessel arriving at Cork, was detained there for some days: but, on the 7th of December, it sailed from that port; and on that day, without any apparent change in his disorder, the invalid expired. He had presented many plays to the different managers, of all which the *Honey Moon* alone was accepted, during

his

his life, when the intimation came too late to afford him pleasure. "The poetry (says Mrs. Inchbald) of this Comedy constitutes its most valuable part. Of the many beautiful passages scattered through the work, the lines at the close of the third act, where the Duke gives his directions to Juliana respecting her attire, are peculiarly worthy of admiration." If Mr. Tobin was indebted to the hints and the language of others, it cannot be denied that he has adorned and enobled his originals; he gives to the ore of his dramatic predecessors the stamp of universal currency; and communicated to valuable, but heterogeneous materials, collected from every quarter of poetical research, beauty of form, and permanence of duration. His brother, a planter at Nevis, eminent as a scholar, and for his spirited exertions in behalf of the slaves of that island, afterwards brought out another of his plays, under the title of *The Curfew*, which is considered superior in its fable, and equal in the richness of its diction to the *Honey Moon*. Both plays have been thought to approximate more nearly to the works of our immortal bard than any other plays in our language. *The Curfew* was played nineteen nights, successively; but was not repeated the twentieth night, because the managers of Drury-Lane Theatre had engaged to advance a considerable sum if it were performed that number of nights. Sir Richard Phillips gave 400*l.* for the copy-right of this single play.

JOHN FELTHAM, a very amiable man, and author of several works on various subjects, was a native of Salisbury, and was born here about the year 1770. It is believed that Mr. Feltham commenced his literary career in the *Monthly Magazine*, in which he produced several papers. He was author of "A Tour through the Isle of Man in 1797 and 1798." 8vo. — "A Popular View of the Structure and Economy of the Human Body," &c. 12mo. 1803: and edited one edition of "The Picture of London." He died of a consumption in London in the prime of life; and left behind him a character eminent for unostentatious philanthropy, emanating from a mild and humane disposition.

LAVERSTOKF, or Laverstock, a village at a short distance north-east from Salisbury, was formerly the demesne of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, (youngest son of Henry IV.) whose many heroic actions, and excellent qualities, acquired him the appellation of *The Good Duke of Gloucester*. The living of this parish is vested in the Dean and Chapter of Sarum: it is called a Tything, and comprises the two hamlets of Milford and Ford. In the year 1811 the population amounted to 376 persons.

CHLORUS'S CAMP, or, as it is frequently called, FIGBURY RING, is situated on a commanding eminence, to the north of the Roman road from Old Sarum to Winchester, and near the village of Winterbourne Earle. This intrenchment is of a circular form, and comprehends an area of nearly fifteen acres within the outer vallum, which is forty-six feet in height, and four furlongs and 198 yards in circumference. The principal entrance faces the east, and is defended by two small outworks; besides which there are two other openings, one towards the west and the other towards the south. What peculiarly distinguishes this encampment is the circumstance of its having a deep ditch excavated at some distance within the area, so as to form a concentric circle within a convex circle. Dr. Stukeley, indeed, supposes the interior ditch to have formed the boundary of a lesser camp, which was enlarged to its present size by Chlorus; but Sir Richard Hoare thinks this opinion void of foundation, and considers the whole as the work of one period.\*

The district of the county situated to the east and north-east of this encampment is intersected in various directions by banks and ditches similar to those of Bokerly and Grymsditch. Some of them seem to form inclosures, while others run out into irregular lines; without any apparent communication. Several groups of barrows are seen near the sides of these ditches; and at one point are the *indiciae* of a British village.†

On

\* Itinerarium Curiosum, Vol. L. p. 138.

† Kœhnet, in his "Parochial Antiquities," endeavours to prove that Constantius Chlorus, after defeating Allectus, "built" this fortification, and that it was called *Chlorus*, after the name of that general.

On the south side of the encampment just described is the lofty Agger of the Roman road, which formerly communicated between the two stations of Sorbiodunum and Venta Belgarum. About two miles south-east of this fortification it passes through the grounds of

**ROCHE-GREAT-COURT**, a manor belonging to Francis T. Egerton, Esq. This gentleman has lately made very considerable improvements on his estate, by the erection of a new house, planting and ornamenting the grounds around it, forming new roads, and by other alterations calculated to embellish the county, and render it more pleasant for social communication. The house may be said to resemble an Italian villa, and in its design and arrangement is highly creditable to the professional talents of C. H. Tatham, Esq. the architect.\* It is built of stone, and some of the apartments are on a large scale. The manor consists of nearly 2000 acres of land, all inclosed by a ring fence. It is part of the parish of WINTERSLOW, in which was formerly a mansion belonging to, and built by, Sir Stephen Fox. The same estate also belonged to the family of Thistlewaite.

**CLARENDON**, about two miles south-east of Salisbury, was originally a royal forest, and was a place of sport for many of the early English monarchs. Near the north-western extremity of it was formerly a palace, which is traditionally said to have been erected by King John: but its origin is unknown: and its form, extent, and architectural peculiarities, are alike unascertained and unknown. No mention of it, however, occurs in history till about a century subsequent to the Norman Conquest, when it appears to have been of great magnitude and importance. King Henry II. frequently made it his court residence. In 1164 that monarch held a council here, in which those laws respecting the limits of the ecclesiastical authority were passed, still called  
*"The*

\* This gentleman has published several interesting works on Grecian and Roman Architecture and Sculpture; also Plans, Sections, &c. of the Picture Galleries of Brocklesby and Castle-Howard.

*"The Constitutions of Clarendon."*\* The intention of these enactments was to check the growing despotism of the clergy, and

\* These comprised sixteen articles, in substance as follows: "all suits concerning the advowson and presentation of churches to be determined in civil courts; that the churches belonging to the king's see should not be granted in perpetuity without his consent; that clerks accused of any crime should be tried in the civil courts; that no person, particularly no clergyman of any rank, should depart the kingdom without the king's licence; that excommunicated persons should not be bound to give security for continuing in their present place of abode; that laics should not be accused in spiritual courts, except by legal and reputable promoters and witnesses; that no chief tenant of the crown should be excommunicated, nor his lands be put under an interdict, except with the king's consent; that all appeals in spiritual cases should be carried from the archdeacon to the bishop, from the bishop to the primate, from him to the king, and should be carried no further without the king's consent; that if any lawsuit arose between a layman and a clergyman concerning a tenant, and it be disputed whether the land be a lay or an ecclesiastical fee, it should first be determined by the verdict of twelve lawful men to what class it belonged; and if it be found to be a lay-fee, the cause should finally be determined in the civil courts; that no inhabitant in demesne should be excommunicated for non-appearance in a spiritual court, till the chief officer of the place where he resides be consulted, that he may compel him, by the civil authority, to give satisfaction to the church; that the archbishops, bishops, and other spiritual dignitaries, should possess the privileges, and be subjected to the burdens belonging to that rank; and should be bound to attend the king in his great councils, and assist at all trials, till the sentence either of death, or loss of members, be given against the criminal; the revenue of vacant sees should belong to the king; the chapter, or such of them as he pleases, should sit in the king's chapel till they made the new election with his consent; and that the bishop elect should do homage to the crown; that if any baron, or tenant in capite, should refuse to submit to the spiritual courts, the king should employ his authority in obliging him to make such submissions; if any of them throw off his allegiance to the king, the prelates should assist the king with his censures in reducing him; that goods forfeited to the king should not be protected in churches, or church-yards; that the clergy should no longer pretend to the right of enforcing payment of debts contracted by oath or promise, but should leave these lawsuits, equally with others, to the determination

and to assert the supremacy of the civil power. Of all the prelates present, Archbishop Becket alone openly and boldly refused to give them the sanction of his authority; but, finding the king inflexibly bent on the attainment of his object, the proud prelate was at length induced to comply, and accordingly, at a second meeting of the council, put his signature to the deed. No sooner, however, was the primate advised of the Pope's determination to support the pretensions of the church, than he obtained absolution for this act, and renewed that arrogant opposition to the king's measures, which only ended with his life, and was the indirect cause of his barbarous, though merited, murder.

Richard I. as well as his predecessor, occasionally made Clarendon a place of residence during the few years of his reign, which his lofty ambition and thirst for military glory permitted him to pass in England. King John also is supposed to have been much attached to this place, and by some antiquaries is called the founder of the palace. This opinion, however, is most certainly erroneous, though he may not unlikely have executed some extensive repairs, or additions to it; as we can scarcely conceive that its traditional appellation, "*King John's Palace*," can have had its origin solely in vulgar error. In the time of Henry III. Clarendon seems to have attained the zenith of its glory. Its buildings were much enlarged and improved by that monarch, who, besides, held his court oftener, and with greater splendour here than any of his predecessors.\* Edward II. summoned

nation of the civil courts; and that the sons of villeins should not be ordained clerks without the consent of their lord."—Hume's History of England, Vol. II. p. 32—34.

\* From the Pipe Rolls of 30th Henry III. it appears that the sum of 526*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.* was paid to one Nicholas, for sundry works done for the king and queen at Clarendon: such as making a *Mercelsia*, with two closets and two private chambers; for removing the doors of the old hall into the porch, and for converting the said hall into a room, with a chimney and windows, and for another private chamber, for building a large square kitchen, and for other works. And again in 39th of the said king, for making in the New

Forest



moned a Parliament to meet here in 1317; but the dissensions which then prevailed between the king and his barons, prevented its assembling. During this prince's reign Clarendon seems to have been disafforested; at least it was then for the first time called the park, instead of the forest of Clarendon. In 1357, when the plague raged violently in the metropolis, and in most of the principal towns in England, Edward III. and his two royal prisoners, the kings of France and Scotland, passed the summer months at this palace, and often enjoyed the amusements of the chace in its extensive grounds.

From that period nothing further is related respecting Clarendon till the reign of Edward VI. when it was granted to Sir William Herbert, the first Earl of Pembroke, for the term of his own life and that of his son; which term ended in 1601, on the death of the second earl.\* After this event, another chasm occurs in its history; but, in 1665, we find it granted, in fee, to George Monke, Duke of Albemarle, whose son, Christopher, bequeathed it, in 1688, to his cousin Granville, Earl of Bath, from whose heirs it was purchased by Benjamin Bathurst, Esq. and continues to be enjoyed by one of his descendants.

### Clarendon

Forest 30,009 shingles, and for carrying them to Clarendon to roof the king's palace, 6l. and 1 mare; and for the same number and carriage in another article 11l. 10s. In 1258 King Henry attended the dedication of Salisbury Cathedral, with his Court, from Clarendon.—Hoare's "Ancient Wiltshire," p. 228.—Vide ante, p. 131.

\* In the first volume of Nichol's "Progresses of Queen Elizabeth," is the following extract from an unpublished manuscript of Sir Rice Merricke's Antiquities of Glamorganshire.—"On the Saturday [September 1571] her Highnesse had appoynted to hunt in Claryuden Park, where the said [Earl of Pembroke] had prepared a fair and pleasant banquette . . . . . leaves for her to dyne in, but that day happened soe great rain, that altho it was fenced with arras, yet it could not defend the wett, by means whereof the Queen dynd withyn the Lodge, and the Lords dynd in the banquetthouse; and after dinner the rayne ceased for a while, during which tyme many deare coursed, with greyhounds were overturned, so as the tyme served great pleasure was showed."

Clarendon Palace is now completely in ruins. This once magnificent pile occupied an eminence, overlooking a narrow vale on its north-western side, and seems, from the extent of the present remains, to have covered a large space. One lofty blank wall alone still remains, and is conjectured, from its breadth and shape, to have formed the end of some great room, like the hall of a college. The only vestige of an arch that can be discovered is thrown over a very deep and wide excavation, which has most likely been used as a cellar. These, and indeed every part of the ruins, are composed of flints strongly cemented together. The whole is extremely irregular, the different masses rising in some spots to a considerable elevation; while in others they appear lodged in cavities many feet lower than the general level. A large fosse and vallum surrounded the palace, and enclosed an extent of sixty or seventy acres. On the inside of the ditch may still be traced the foundations of a strong wall.

In the original grant of this domain by King Charles II. to the Duke of Albemarle, the superficial contents of the whole park are estimated at 4300 acres, and are valued at 1000*l.* per annum. If the description of the poet Maschiart, whose lines are quoted by Camden, can be relied on as correct, its boundaries would appear to have inclosed no less than twenty groves, each of them a mile in compass. At present nearly one-third of the whole demesne is appropriated as woodland.

About a mile from the ruins of the palace stands *Clarendon-Lodge*, the seat of Frederick Herveý Bathurst, Esq. It is a commodious modern edifice, surrounded by extensive pleasure-grounds. The woods are very abundant; and near one end is an expansive lake, whence issues a small river. At the western edge of the forest, and on the brow of an eminence, is

IVY CHURCH, corruptly called *Wichereche*, or *West-Church*, where was anciently a *Priory*, dedicated to the Blessed Mary. It was founded and endowed by King Henry II. for the support of four canons of the order of St. Augustine, and rose to great opulence.

opulence and distinction by the patronage of succeeding monarchs. The inmates of the priory are said to have constituted the spiritual attendants at the royal chapel in the adjoining palace. According to Dugdale, the annual revenues amounted to 122l. 8s. 6d. in the 26th year of Henry VIII. by whom it was dissolved, and the site and buildings granted to John Barwick, Esq.\* This now forms part of the manor of ALDERBURY, or *Oldbury*, an adjoining parish. The whole was alienated under the land-tax Act to the Earl of Radnor. The present house of Ivy Church is the seat of Henry Henxman, Esq.

FARLEY, a straggling village, situated east from Clarendon, is distinguished for having been the ancient residence of the family of Fox. SIR STEPHEN FOX, the first of the name who rendered himself conspicuous in public life, was the youngest son of William Fox, of this parish, and was born here on the 27th of March, 1627. Of the ancestors of Sir Stephen, and of the early period of his own life, tradition, and published accounts are completely at issue. The former intimates that both were of obscure birth and humble rank in life; whilst the latter assert that William Fox "had a competent fortune, and brought up his sons agreeably thereto." The same authors also state that he had a "liberal education," and a "proficiency in learning."

At the time of the great rebellion Mr. Fox espoused the royal cause,

\* In the *Bibliotheca* of Sir Thomas Elyot, quoted by Leland in his *Collectanea*, appears the following extraordinary passage relative to this place. "About thirty years past I myself beyng with my father Sir Rytharde Elyot at a monastery of regular chaulons called Ivy-Churche two miles from the citee of Saresbyri beheld the bones of a dead man, found deep in the ground where they digged stone, which beyng joined together, was in length 14 feet 10 inches, whereof one of the teeth my father had which was of the quantity of a great walutte. This have I written because some men will believe nothing that is out of the compasse of their own knowlege. And yet some of them presume to have knowlege above any other contemnyng all men but themselves and such as they favour."—*Lel. Col. Vol. III. fol. 242.* Sir Thomas Elyot died in 1514.

cause, and accompanied his brother to Paris after the fatal battle of Worcester. Here he obtained the patronage, and, according to Lord Clarendon, was "under the severe discipline," of Lord Percy, then lord chamberlain, who entertained so high an opinion of his abilities, that on the king's removal from Paris, Fox was entrusted with the charge of governing the expenses of the royal family, and acquitted himself so much to the satisfaction of the king, that he was sworn cofferer to the household; but, on the Restoration, lost that office, in consequence of another individual producing a reversionary grant of it from Charles I. Other and higher honours, however, rewarded the services of Mr. Fox. He was appointed chief clerk of the Green-cloth; and, not long after, pay-master-general of all his majesty's forces in England. In 1665 the king conferred on him the honour of knighthood; and, in 1679, named him one of the lords commissioners of the Treasury, and first commissioner in the office of master of the horse. On the abdication of James II. Sir Stephen concurred in voting the throne vacant, and for the filling it with the Prince and Princess of Orange, an act which appears to have been so strongly resented by the deposed monarch, that he excepted him, by name, in the formal declaration of pardon issued at La Hogue, when he was on the eve of invading England in 1692. Sir Stephen retired from public business in 1701, leaving behind him an example of talent, attention, and fidelity, which at once gained him the esteem of his king, and the gratitude of his country. So highly were his many excellent qualities appreciated by Queen Anne, that he had the honour of conducting her, when going in procession to her coronation on April 23, 1702.

Sir Stephen served in several parliaments for the cities of Salisbury and Westminster; and displayed in his representative capacity all that manly integrity which forms so striking a trait in the political character of his illustrious descendants. When the celebrated Earl of Clarendon lost the favour of Charles II. and an impeachment was moved against him, this distinguished statesman boldly advocated the cause of the accused peer, though

though commanded by the king to act a contrary part. He was not only great and just in public life; but pious and generous as a private individual. Several churches were erected by him in different parts of the kingdom. The body of Salisbury cathedral was pewed solely at his expense; and many charities owe their existence and support to his munificence and liberality. Chelsea hospital, that noble monument of national benevolence, was first projected by him, and he contributed no less than £3,000l. to assist in its institution. Sir Stephen was twice married, and had a numerous family by each of his wives, but only one son by his first lady, arrived at the age of maturity, and even he died many years before his father. His two sons by the second wife, however, survived him, and both emulated the glory of their parent. Stephen, the eldest, attained the dignity of Earl of Ilchester; and Henry, that of Baron Holland of Holland, in Lincolnshire, and of Foxley, in Wiltshire. This Henry was the father of the late Right Honorable Charles James Fox, whose patriotism, consummate abilities, and commanding eloquence, rendered him the idol of opposition, and the powerful rival of the illustrious William Pitt. His other son, Stephen, who succeeded to his titles and estate, was the father of the present Lord Holland, who is a native of Wiltshire, and may strictly be denominated one of the living "worthies" of the county.—His lordship's public conduct renders him an honor to his birth-place, (Winterslow,) and an exemplary inheritor of the political talent, and patriotic principles of his renowned ancestors.

Sir Stephen Fox\* bestowed many marks of attachment on his native village. He built both a *Church* and an alms-house at his own charge. The former is a large, lofty brick edifice, with one transept,

\* Collin's Peerage of England, Edit. 1812, by Sir Egerton Brydges. See also "Memoirs of the Life of Sir Stephen Fox, Knt. printed in 1717: and reprinted in 1807. In the latter is a very good portrait of Sir Stephen, from a picture by J. Baker: another, from Sir P. Lely, is engraved by Scriven for an elegant edition of Grammont's Memoirs, 2 vols. 8vo. 1811.

The Memoir of Sir Stephen is a very curious and interesting specimen of ancient biography.

transept, and contains several monumental erections commemorative of different members of his family. In the north aisle are three marble mural tombs. One of them is for Sir Stephen himself, together with his last wife, "*Dame Christian Hope*, who died February 17, 1718." The inscription on this tomb is written in old French, and is much obliterated. Near it is the monument for his first wife, *Elizabeth Whittle*, whose death happened August the 11th, 1696. The third tomb was erected to the memory of *Charles Fox*, Esq.\* and of his wife Elizabeth Carr Trollop, daughter of Sir William Trollop of Casewick, in the county of Lincoln: the former died Sept. 9th, 1713, aged 53, and the latter, March 15th, 1704, aged 42\*.

Against the north wall is fixed a marble slab, with the figures of a woman and three children in bas-relief, on the entablature; also a pelican and its young, and three well-executed heads by R. Westmacott, Esq. R. A. † This monument is inscribed to the memory of *Henry Thomas, second Earl of Ilchester*, who died September 5, 1802, in the fifty-sixth year of his age, and of Mary Theresa, his first wife, daughter of Standish Grady, Esq. of Cappercullin, in the county of Limerick, Ireland. She died in the year 1790.

A marble tablet has lately been added to the decorations of this church, by the widow of the Right Honourable *Charles James Fox*, whose lamented death, September 13, 1806, deprived

VOL. XV.---July 1813.

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his

\* This Charles Fox served in Parliament for Eye, in Suffolk; for Calne, in Wiltshire; and for the city of Salisbury. He succeeded his father, as paymaster general of the forces in conjunction with Nicholas Johnson, on the 26th of December, 1679, and, in April 1683, became sole paymaster, though not more than twenty-three years of age. This office he held in the reigns of Charles II. James II. and Queen Anne. And in the reign of King William III. he was vice-treasurer, and receiver general, also paymaster of the revenues in Ireland, and was likewise treasurer to Catharine, Queen Dowager of England.

† Comparing this monument with the three just noticed, we instantly perceive, that very considerable improvement has been made in the style of design and execution of monumental sculpture within the last hundred years.

his country of an eminent political orator and enlightened statesman. An inscription, after stating the period of his decease, his age, and place of interment, at Westminster, concludes with the following lines:

" A patriot's even course he steer'd,  
Mid' faction's wildest storms unmov'd ;  
By all who mark'd his mind, rever'd ;  
By all who knew his heart, belov'd."

R. FITZ-PATRICK.

The *Alms-house*, or hospital of Farley, was erected in 1678, and endowed with the sum of 188*l.* per annum, arising out of the manor of Mannington in this county, for the support of a chaplain, or warden \*, six old men, and a like number of women. It is a plain brick building, and consists of a centre and two wings. The first is appropriated for the chaplain, who, in addition to his duty as warden of the hospital, has the charge of a charity school, which was also established by Sir Stephen. In this edifice is a portrait of the founder, with a Latin inscription underneath.

At WEST-DEAN, on the borders of Hampshire, is an ancient mansion, which formerly belonged to Sir John Evelyn, and passed from his family, by marriage, to the Duke of Kingston, whose trustees sold it to Sir Arthur Cole, afterwards Lord Ranelagh. This nobleman left it to his widow, who resided here till her death, when it descended, in conformity to his lordship's will, to the Honourable Mr. Moore. The house is large, and contains several apartments ; but, having been unoccupied for some years, is falling to ruins.

The parish Church, close to the house, consisting of a nave, chancel, and side aisle, contains several monumental erections deserving the attention of the topographer. In the chancel is a mural tomb of marble, with the statues of a man and a woman kneeling at a desk, and three male, and eight female figures, in the

Stephen provided an annual allowance of 60*l.* for the chaplain.

the same attitude, beneath. This monument commemorates JOHN EVELYN, Esq. and his lady. The former died April the 7th, 1627, and the latter on the 7th of May, 1625.

Against the opposite wall is another marble monument, with a beautiful bust in a niche over it. From the inscription it appears to have been erected to the memory of ELIZABETH, daughter of GEORGE EVELYN, Esq. and wife of John Tirrel of Heron Hall, in the county of Essex. She died in 1629.

Over a vault, in the south aisle, are likewise two marble tombs. One of them, erected in honour of Sir JOHN EVELYN, bears a very fine bust of the deceased in a cupboard, and a well executed female figure on the top of the pediment. Sir John died the 26th of June, 1634, in the eighty-fourth year of his age. The other tomb is inscribed to the memory of *Robert Pierrepont, Esq.* whose death happened April 26, 1669. This monument consists of a large mass of marble, with a man kneeling in a niche, and addressing himself, with clasped hands, to a stream of golden rays issuing from a hole in the side. The whole is executed in a very vulgar and disgusting style: and may be properly called "*Gothic sculpture.*"

Against the gallery is a table of benefactions to the poor of the united parishes of West-Dean, and East-Grinstead. Among these it is stated that Sir John Evelyn, by will, dated March 5, 1634, bequeathed the sum of 20*l.* charged on his estates at Dean; yet it appears that in the year 1791, only 10*l.* 9*s.* were distributed!—This seems strange!

In this village was discovered, in the year 1741, part of a *Roman tessellated pavement*, a drawing of which, with some account, were communicated to the Society of Antiquaries of London. Fragments of this floor still remain, in the original position, in a carpenter's yard. Not being on the line of any Roman military road, or being part of a station of that people, we are rather surprised at finding such a relic in such a situation: and can only account for it, by ascribing it to a rural villa of some officer.



## DOWNTON,

DOWNTON, or DUNKTON, a borough, and parish, situated on the eastern bank of the river Avon, is said to be a town of great antiquity, and the vestiges of its castle, and other evidence, tend to confirm this opinion. It is a borough by prescription, and returns two members to the national senate. This privilege was first exercised in the twenty-third year of the reign of Edward I. and was continued to the 38th of Edward III. when it ceased to be represented, (except in the first year of Henry V.) till the 20th year of Henry VI. The right of election is vested in persons having a freehold interest in burgage tenements, held under the Bishop of Winchester, who is lord of the borough. The voters are estimated at one hundred in number, and the returning officer is the deputy steward of the lessee of the manor, as settled by the decision of a committee of the House of Commons, in 1790\*. This borough has frequently been a scene of severe contest between the families of Shaftoe and Bouverie; but at present the chief interest and influence are vested in the Earl Radnor.

Downton was formerly a town of more importance than at present, and had a weekly market, which has been discontinued for many years. Bogo, or Beirs, commonly called Beauvois, Earl of Southampton, who is so much celebrated among the ancient British writers, and reckoned by the vulgar one of the greatest heroes of England, is traditionally reported to have had his residence at this place†.

A castle of large extent, and formidable position, was constructed here at an early period; but whether anterior to the Norman Conquest is not recorded. It is traditionally said that King John had a palace in this town: and that an ancient building,

\* History of Boroughs, Vol. III. p. 134.

† Camden's Britannia, by Gough, Ed. 1789, Vol. I. p. 92. See Sir H. Englefield's Fall through Southampton.

ing, called the Court House, was his residence\*. Of these buildings we cannot find any authentic particulars: yet the former must have been the seat of some dignified Norman baron, and a place of importance. The earth-works are very extensive, and some places are lofty and commanding. In the centre is a large conical mound, or keep, nearly resembling that at Marlborough; and this was surrounded by lofty valla, and ditches. At present it is difficult to define the forms and extent of the works; as the whole have been new modelled to make terrace-walk, plantations, &c. for a modern garden. This place is at the south-eastern extremity of the town, and from its position commanded the valley of the Avon, as well as a ford over the river.

The *Church of Downton*, a large building, consists of a nave, chancel, transept, and two side aisles, with a tower in the centre, which was raised thirty feet in the year 1791, at the expense of the Earl of Radnor. This church contains a number of fine tombs of the Duntcombe family, and of other persons. A mural monument of marble in the south transept commemorates *Sir Charles Duntcombe*, Knt. who died the 9th of April, 1711, in the 63d year of his age.

In the chancel, which is very spacious, are four handsome marble monuments. One of these is raised to the honour of the Right Honourable *Lady Feversham*, only daughter to the Right Honourable George Viscount Lord Willoughby de Broke. It bears the effigy of a female, resting on an urn, and having a book in her left hand. Her ladyship died October 9th, 1755, in the 59th year of her age; and her character is fully set forth in an inscription, which we regret is much too long to admit of being quoted in our work. Opposite to this tomb is that of her husband, *Anthony, Lord Feversham*, Baron of Downton, who died June 15, 1763; and near it is that of his lordship's second wife, *Frances*, fifth daughter of Peter Bathurst, Esq. of Clarendon Park. This lady died on the 21st day of

P 3

November,

November, 1757, in the 26th year of her age \*. The fourth large marble tomb, in this part of the church, was erected in memory of *George*, son of Anthony *Duncombe*, Esq. of Beresford, and the honourable Margaret Verney, his wife. He died August 9, 1741, aged 19 years.

A mural tablet records the name of Bartholomew Lynch, Esq who bequeathed an annuity of 100l. to be appropriated in apprenticing poor children. The parish erected the present memorial to record the name and charitable bequest of the benevolent donor.

The rectory or great tythes of Downton belong to the college of Winchester, and are held by lease usually for ten years. They were long in the possession of the Raleigh family, relations to the great Sir Walter Raleigh, and it is even probable that he was for some time lessee himself.

In Downton is an ancient stone cross, called the *Borough-Cross*, as being the spot, where all elections take place, unless a poll is demanded, in which event, after certain formal proceedings are gone through, an adjournment is usually made to some public house. This cross was repaired in 1797, at the expense of the then members of the borough, when the following inscription was cut on the lower step :

*"Festate Collosum E. Boverie Com. Jil. et Gull. Scott.  
eq. cur. Burgens. ad Parl. funditus firmari f. l. A. D. 1797.*

In front of the public house, near this cross, are two busts in niches, traditionally said to be portraits of King John and one of his Queens. Underneath are sculptured the letters I. R. with the date 1205; but we suspect them to have been executed at a much later period.

The

\* Lord Feversham married for his third wife, Ann, daughter of Sir Thomas Hales, Bart. of Howletts and Beaks Bourne, in the county of Kent, who survived him. By her his lordship had one daughter, Anne, wife of Jacob Bouverie, the present Earl of Radnor.

The free school of Downton is supported by the customs payable upon all cattle and goods, brought to the two annual fairs, which are held within the borough in spring and autumn. These fairs were obtained through the influence of the family of the Eyres of Brickworth, and immediately settled by them to this charitable purpose. Here is a well regulated workhouse for the poor.

As appears from Domesday Book, the manor here constituted part of the possessions of the Bishops of Winchester, as early as the era of the Conquest, and for time immemorial it has been leasehold under that see. About a century ago it was so held by Sir James Ashe, Bart. from whose family it passed to Wyndham Ashe, Esq. of Norfolk. This gentleman sold it, in 1742, to Anthony Duncombe, Esq. afterwards Lord Riversham, in conformity to whose will it was sold by order of the Court of Chancery, and is now holden by Sir Philip Hales, Bart. as a trustee for the Earl of Radnor.\*

DR. RALEIGH, eldest son of Sir Carew, and grandson of the great Sir Walter Raleigh, was a native of this town. He was educated at Magdalen College, Oxford, where he took the several degrees in arts, and entered into holy orders. The Earl of Pembroke named him his chaplain, and presented him to the rectory of Chedsey in Somersetshire. After this, preferments crowded in upon him, and he became successively a minor prebendary in the church of Wells, rector of Streat, chaplain to King Charles the First, and dean of Wells, having previously obtained the degree of doctor of divinity. When the rebellion broke out he was ejected from all his livings, and compelled to fly to secure his life; but, being taken prisoner at Bridgewater, he was confined for some years at Banwell. At length, however, he was removed to his own house at Wells, and placed under the custody of a shoemaker, who used him with the utmost

P 4

cruelty.

\* The copyhold lands of inheritance of this manor are borough English and consequently descend to the youngest son in preference to the elder children, unless otherwise limited by admission.

cruelty, and in the end stabbed him because he refused to shew him a letter he had written to his wife. Some of the sermons and other treatises of this divine were published by Dr. Patrick in 1679, under the title of "*Reliquiæ Raleighianæ*."

**BARFORD**, or more properly **BEREFORD**, a large brick house seated on a natural terrace about half a mile north from Downton, was built by Sir Charles Duncombe, who purchased the former edifice, and the estate from the last male heir of the family of the Stockmans, by whom it had been held on lease for many years. Sir Charles bequeathed this property, in the first instance, to his nephew, Anthony Duncombe, Lord Feversham, who fixed his residence here, and failing heirs male of his body, to the lineal descendants of Sir Charles Lister, whose grandson accordingly became possessed of it, and took the name of Duncombe. This gentleman likewise dying without issue male, conveyed this estate, by will, to his eldest daughter, and from her it has descended to her eldest son Robert Eden Duncombe Shaftoe, Esq. the present proprietor.

**BRICKWORTH**, in White Parish, has long been a seat of the Eyre family. The present possessor is John Maurice Eyre, Esq. who is likewise proprietor of **LANDFORD HOUSE**, another mansion situated about two miles to the south-east. Several persons of this family have distinguished themselves both at the bar and in the church. The Rev. William Eyre, who was born at Brickworth about the beginning of the seventeenth century, was rector of St. Edmund's in Salisbury in the time of the Commonwealth, and strenuously advocated the doctrine of free justification, against Baxter, Eedes, and others.\*

**COWSFIELD HOUSE**, the seat of Sir Arthur Paget, Knight of the Bath, is part of White Parish, and is placed on the southern slope of the Dean Hills. This estate may be denominated a true *ferme-ornée*, and was originally laid out as such by Henry Dench,

\* Vide ante, p. 193.

Dench, Esq. The fields are regularly encompassed with ornamental hedge-rows, and trees, and most of them have a turf-drive or road around the hedges. From several spots in these paths, the spectator is delighted with extensive and diversified views of a fine and luxuriant tract of country, including the umbrageous woods of the New Forest, the Isle of Wight, and many other objects. Sir Arthur bought this estate of ——— Weld, Esq. of Lulworth Castle, early in the present year, and has made considerable improvements and additions to the house, from the designs of C. H. Tatham, Esq. Architect. Near this place, and on the extreme verge of the county, is

MELCHETT, or MILSHET PARK, the seat of John Osborne, Esq. which is distinguished by a beautiful Hindu-temple, erected by the owner, in the year 1800, as a tribute to the merits of Warren Hastings, Esq. late Governor-General of Bengal. The area of this building, including its portico, is about twenty-two feet by fifteen, and its height nearly twenty feet. It is of a square form, to the roof, which rises in the shape of a four-sided pyramid, terminated by a sort of flattened ball. The pillars supporting the portico, and the pilasters at the angles of the building, besides the decorations peculiar to the order of Hindu architecture, to which they belong, are adorned with a variety of mythological figures and emblems. The figure of Ganesa, the Janus of the east, and accounted the genius of wisdom and policy, has its appropriate place over the portal; and among the emblems are the principal incarnations of Vishnu, who, according to the creed of the Brahmins, has frequently appeared upon earth, under different material forms, for the maintenance of religion and virtue, and the reformation of mankind. Within the temple, and directly opposite the door, is an elegant pedestal, surmounted by a bust of Mr. Hastings rising out of the sacred flower of the Lotus. The inscription beneath is as follows:

*Sacred to the Genii of India, who from time to time assume Material Forms to protect its Nations and its Laws. Particularly to the immortal Hastings, who in these our days has appeared the Saviour of those Regions to the British Empire, this fane was raised by John Osborne in respect to his pre-eminent Virtues. in the year M.D.CCC.\**

**BROXMORE**, on the eastern border of this county, adjoining Hampshire, is the seat of Robert Blistow, Esq. The demesne is part of White Parish, and has been very recently constituted a place of residence and ornament. The house has the character and appearance of an Italian villa, on a large scale, and is executed from the designs of C. H. Tatham, Esq. Architect. The drawing room, 30 feet by 20, library, eating room, and billiard room, are spacious and elegant: and the stables are of a very superior kind. The grounds and scenery around the house are highly picturesque and beautiful.

A portion of this district is denominated the **EARLDOMS**, and formed part of the possessions of the Duke of Somerset, who was attainted in the reign of Edward the Sixth. That monarch, afterwards, granted it, in the patent of Ramsbury, to William, Earl of Pembroke, and the heirs male of his body. The Earldoms are situated in the forest of Milchet, and in the parishes of White Parish, Landford, and Platford.

**STANDLYNCH-HOUSE**, a seat of the Dawkins family, is a large brick edifice, with a centre and two wings. The pleasure grounds are extensive, and well-wooded, and are skirted on one side by the River Avon, which contributes greatly to enliven the adjoining scenery. From the summit of the high grounds, to the east of this demesne, the prospect may be considered to be one of the finest and

\* The original design of this temple was furnished gratuitously by Thomas Daniell, Esq. R. A. after the chastest models of Hindu architecture; and was executed in artificial stone by Mr. Rossi. In the European Magazine for December 1802, are two plates of this temple, &c.

and most varied in the county. The district on the east exhibits a spacious tract of well cultivated inclosures and woodlands, interspersed and surrounded with numerous handsome seats, the principal of which have been previously noticed.

**CLEARBURY-RING** is an ancient encampment placed on the top of a lofty eminence about a mile and a half west from Standlynch. This earthen work Sir Richard Hoare supposes to have been constructed by the West Saxon King, Cerdic, or his son, Cynric, during one of their expeditions into Wiltshire, before that county became part of the kingdom of Wessex. Compared with the many fine specimens, which we shall have occasion to describe in the sequel, it is a mean entrenchment, consisting of a single ditch and vallum. Its shape is that of an oblong square, with only one narrow entrance on the south-east. The circuit of the ditch is three furlongs, fifty-five yards, and its depth on the scarp side forty-three feet. The area within the vallum contains five acres and a quarter, and is thickly planted with trees.

**WHICHBURY-CAMP**, situated on the confines of this county with Dorsetshire, is another single ditched encampment, probably referable to the same period as that of Clearbury. Like it, the position of this earthen-work is lofty, and not less strong by nature than by art. The area within the ramparts contains fifteen acres and a half, and the circumference of the ditch is 1210 yards. This entrenchment has three openings, but only two of them appear to have been ancient entrances. The height of the vallum is thirty-nine feet.

From this encampment, on the north side, an ancient bank and ditch leads eastward towards a long barrow on Wick-Down, where is one of those curious relics of antiquity called a Maze, which resembles a low barrow, surrounded by circles within circles. Another similar ditch and bank takes a direction almost due north, by Gallows-Hill to Charlton-Down, and there divides into two branches, a little to the south of a group of five barrows. One branch continues its original northern course, leaving Clearbury Ring to the right, and is lost among the arable lands.



lands. The other runs westward across the Roman road from Sorbiodunum to Vindogladia, through Vernditch-Chace, into the thick copse wood of Cranbourn Chace. This ditch is commonly called *Grymsditch*, and is conjectured by Sir Richard Hoare to have constituted a British boundary, but of what description he does not inform us. The vallum throughout its whole extent is on the east and north sides, and varies considerably in height at different points.

On the declivity of a rich vale leading to the village of Damerham is an earthen work called the SOLDIERS' RING, which is singular both in form and construction, and indeed differs in most respects from every other encampment, if it be such, in the county. Its shape is that of an irregular pentangle, whose western side is straight, while its eastern end terminates in a point. Close to this angle is the only entrance to the work, and near it, within the rampart, is a little oblong work, open towards the east. The whole is surrounded by a treble ditch and vallum, the middle one being of much less depth than either of the others, which, however, are likewise so unusually slight, that the very respectable antiquary above mentioned is of opinion that they cannot have been raised for the purpose of defence. The superficial contents of this work are estimated at twenty-seven acres and a half: the circumference of the middle rampart is fifteen hundred and forty feet, and the greatest height of the vallum eight feet.

CRANBOURN-CHACE comprehends an extensive tract of country lying partly in Wiltshire, and partly in the county of Dorset. That it was originally a forest is extremely probable, but record is entirely silent on this subject. At a very remote period it was held by the house of Gloucester, and vested in King John in right of his wife Isabel, daughter and coheir of William, Earl of Gloucester, whom he divorced upon coming to the throne. After her death it descended to her daughter Amicia, wife of the Earl of Hertford, afterwards

Earl

Earl of Gloucester, and continued in that family by regular descent upwards of two hundred and fifty years, when it devolved to King Edward the Fourth. From that time till the reign of James the First, this chace remained in the possession of the crown, and was then granted to William, Earl of Salisbury, and his heirs. In the 23d year of Charles the Second the reversion in fee was granted to Thomas Stringer, at the request and nomination of Anthony, Earl of Shaftesbury. In 1692, this nobleman, being seised of it for life with remainder to his son, Anthony, Lord Ashley, the latter alienated it in fee to Thomas Freke, of Shroton, Esq. whence, with his other estates, it came to the Pitts of Stratfield-Say, and is now the property of Lord Rivers.

Concerning the boundaries of Cranbourn Chace, particularly on the Wiltshire side, several severe legal contests have arisen, which have uniformly been decided in favour of the Lord of the Chace, and according to a perambulation made in the reign of Henry the Third, when King John was Earl of Gloucester. \* The last action was brought in 1783, by Lord Rivers,

\* By this perambulation the boundaries were declared to be as follows: "viz. from Bolebridge, in Wilton, to Hurdecote, by the river Noddre, to the mills of Dynnington (Ditton) and Tysbury; from thence by Wycham, and by the river Noddre, to the place where the Semene falls into the Noddre; and so by the river Semene to Semenhaved, Kingsettle, near Shaftesbury, Sleybrondesgate, St. Rumbald's church, and Geldenhoe to the river Stekel; and by that river to the Bank of the Stour, and by the bank of that river to Hayford Bridge, Blanelord Bridge, and Crauford Bridge. From thence to Aide-Wyresbregg, under Winbourne to Walterford [Wayford] Wychampton and Pontem Petri [Stone Bridge.] From thence to Long Haya [Long Ham] that leads to Mufedich, to Kynges, by the way that leads to L'Esteford, by the middle of Estwood. From thence by the water of Cranbourne to la Horewith to Albelake and Le Honeston. From hence by the way to the great bridge of Ringwood, or Kungeswood. From thence to the bridge of Forde to Dunton Bridge and Aylswaderbrige (Harnham Bridge); and from thence to Bolebrige (Bull Bridge) in Wilton aforesaid." Inquisition 29 Henry III. 1244, quoted in the History and Antiquities of the county of Dorset. By Richard Gough, Esq. 2d Edit. Lond. 1813.

Rivers, to try the right set up at Tollard of a general limit, during the sitting of the Manor Court there, and, after a full hearing, a verdict was obtained for the plaintiff.

While this chace was vested in the crown, a custos, or keeper, was appointed to take a charge of it, who was generally a person of distinction. Richard, Duke of York, constituted James Ormond, Earl of Wiltshire, chief custos for life, with power to nominate a deputy; and he accordingly bestowed that office on Edmund Ashely, Esq. and enjoined all foresters and park-keepers to be assistant to him in the execution of his duty. In the reign of Henry the Sixth the office of keeper was granted for life to Thomas Dackhem, valet of the King's Chamber. In the 17th year of Elizabeth it was held by Henry, Earl of Pembroke; and in 1627, it was conferred on Sir Thomas Aylesbury, Bart. for life.

Cranbourn Chace at present has six lodges, with walks appropriated to each, under the care of a ranger, who holds his office by deputation from Lord Rivers. Formerly there were two other walks, of which Fern-Ditch, or, as it is commonly called, Vern-Ditch, in this county, was one. This portion of the chace was alienated in fee to the Earl of Pembroke, in the reign of James the First, and has lately been disfranchised by the present Earl, who has wisely converted the greater part of it into valuable farms. Proposals have likewise been made for the disfranchisement of its other divisions; but the negotiations for that purpose are not yet concluded.

For the preservation of vert and venison, there belongs to this chace a wood, or chace-court, which is sanctioned by grants as well as by prescription. It was held by the Earl of Salisbury at Cranbourne, by the Earl of Shaftesbury at Winbourne St. Giles, by Mr. Freke and Lord Rivers at Rushmore. Formerly this court was convened several times during the year, but now only once. Delinquents are punished by fine or imprisonment; and there is still a room in the manor house at Cranbourne in Dorsetshire, called the *Dungeon*, or *Chace Prison*, which appears from

from ancient presentments to have been much in use. In the fence month, viz. fifteen days before, and as many after Midsummer day every waggon and pack horse passing over Harnham Bridge is liable to pay tolls; the former 4d. and the latter 1d. on account of the disturbance they occasioned to the deer, when dropping their fawns. At this period a pair of horns are fixed on the bridge as a signal to travellers, and the duty is collected under a warrant from Lord Rivers.

RUSHMORE-LODGE, one of the seats of Lord Rivers, is situated close upon the confines of Dorsetshire, in a sequestered vale deeply embosomed in wood. The house consists of a centre and two wings, and presents rather a handsome appearance; but possesses nothing remarkable in its structure and arrangement.

In the parish of TOLLARD-ROYAL, about a mile to the south-west, is an old farm house called *King John's Hunting Seat*, and traditionally said to have been erected by that monarch. What now remains is probably only a small part of the original edifice. The interior of this building bears decided marks of antiquity, particularly the principal staircase, which, as well as a chimney piece in one of the bed rooms, is constructed of oak. The chimney piece is carved, and the fire place is of uncommon width and arched, with a plain moulding in front.

ASHCOMBE, a seat belonging to Lord Arundel of Wardour, and rented by Paul Methuen, Esq. M. P. for the county, claims the peculiar notice of the topographer, on account of the singularity of its situation, and the beauty of the scenery in which it is enveloped. The house is placed upon an isolated knoll in the centre of a circular amphitheatre formed by the surrounding hills, the lower acclivities of which are finely enriched with woods and coppices, while their upper portions afford pasturage to large flocks of sheep and not unfrequently to herds of deer, which have been enticed to stray from the walks of the chace by the sweetness of herbage. "An inverted bason," (says

ship of the trinkets found in this barrow, as well as the position of the body, prove this interment to have been more modern than the generality of those we have investigated, and perhaps that of a Belgic and Romanized Briton." \*

In the angle between the Roman-road, and the modern Blandford-road, which unite near Woodyates-Inn, is a group of several barrows. So much, indeed, did their "external variety and beauty of construction" excite the curiosity of the author above quoted, that he directed the whole of them to be opened, and discovered many interesting remains of ancient art. Some of the largest and most beautiful sepulchral Urns hitherto dug up, and a number of curious utensils and ornaments rewarded the zeal and exertions of Sir Richard and his party, in their examination of these tumuli. In a fine bell-shaped barrow, at the depth of eighteen inches, were found two skeletons, lying north-east and south-west, and apparently placed one above the other. Underneath these, eleven feet deeper, and covered over with a considerable quantity of flints, lay another skeleton of very large proportions, having both legs drawn up according to the most ancient and primitive custom. Near its side was deposited a brazen dagger that had been gilt, and protected by a wooden scabbard, some part of which still adhered to it, as well as a small ornament of jet, having two holes in it for suspension. Close to the thigh bone was another ornament of jet, resembling a pulley, four very perfect arrow-heads of flint, and a brass pin; and, at the feet, was a hollow vessel, probably the drinking cup of the deceased hero.†

#### WINKELBURY-

\* Ancient Wiltshire, Vol. I. p. 235, where it is also remarked that nearly opposite to this barrow "the bank and ditch assume a different character; and the ramparts, which had been hitherto very bold and lofty, suddenly sunk in height, continue low and weak for some distance and afterwards resume on each side their usual height."

† During the opening of this barrow a dreadful storm of thunder and lightning came on, which forced Sir Richard Hoare and his party to seek

WINKELBURY-CAMP is situated on a lofty part of the Down, near the village of Berwick-St.-John. This entrenchment consists of a single ditch and vallum; the latter is thirty-nine feet in height, and one thousand and fifty-six yards in circumference,

Q 2

and

seek refuge in the excavated tumulus. The incident gave occasion to the following beautiful and descriptive lines from the pen of the Rev. Wm. L. Bowles, who happened to attend the operations on that day.

" Let me, let me, sleep again,"  
 Thus methought in feeble strain,  
 Plain'd from his disturbed bed,  
 The spirit of the mighty dead.  
 O'er my moulder'd ashes cold,  
 Many a century slow hath roll'd,  
 Many a race hath disappear'd  
 Since my giant form I rear'd;  
 Since my flinted arrow flew,  
 Since my battle-horn I blew;  
 Since my brazen-dagger's pride  
 Glitter'd on my warlike side,  
 Which, transported o'er the wave,  
 Kings of distant ocean gave.  
 Ne'er hath glared the eye of day,  
 My death-bed secrets to betray,  
 Since, with mutter'd Celtic rhyme  
 The white-haired Druid bard sublime,  
 'Mid the stillness of the night,  
 Wak'd the sad and solemn rite,  
 The rite of death, and o'er my bones  
 Were piled the monumental stones."  
 Passing near the hallow'd ground  
 The Roman gas'd upon the mound,  
 And murmur'd with a secret sigh,  
 " There in dust the mighty lie,"  
 Ev'n while his heart with conquest glow'd,  
 While the high-raised flinted road,  
 Echoed to the prancing hoof,  
 And golden eagles flam'd aloof.

And

and incloses an area of twelve acres and a half. It has three entrances towards the south; and its centre is intersected by a ditch and rampart, in such a manner as to give it the appearance of two encampments.

On the opposite side of the valley, on which the village of Berwick-St.-John is situated, is a range of hills, which display many interesting vestiges of British industry. "Ascending White-Sheet-Hill," observes Sir Richard Hoare, "I immediately recognize, in banks, ditches, and barrows, the rude memorials of the Britons. The first bank and ditch, worthy of notice, is of great strength, and has its vallum towards the south-west. In its progress over the down southward, it tends towards the vale between Berwick-St.-John and Alvaldeston; and perhaps (though now interrupted by tillage) may have originally formed part of the same agger which is marked on the opposite ridge-way towards the south. In its northern course, having descended, it is lost in the cultivated lands towards Wardour-Castle. Pursuing the old track-way,\* I traversed two other banks and ditches, which

And flashing to the orient light,  
His banner'd legions gliter'd bright;  
The Victor of the world confess'd  
A dark awe shivering at his breast.  
" Shall the sons of distant days  
Unpunish'd on my relics gaze?  
Hark! HELL'S rushes from on high,  
Vindictive thunder rocks the sky.  
See TARANIS descends to save  
His heroes' violated grave,  
And shakes beneath the lightning's glare,  
The sulphur from his blazing hair:  
Hence! yet tho' my grave ye spoil:  
Dark oblivion mocks your toil.  
Deep the clouds of ages roll,  
History drops her mould'ring scroll,  
And never shall reveal the name  
Of him, who scorns her transient fame."

Sir Richard Hoare's Ancient Wiltshire, Vol. I. p. 246

\* The old road from Salisbury to Shaftesbury.

which lose themselves in the precipitous valleys on the right ; and, a little beyond the last of these, I perceived the *indiciæ* of a British village encompassed by a slight earthen *agger*, and in front of it the segment of an earthen circle. On digging into the excavations of this village, I found animal bones, and a great deal of pottery of the very rudest and coarsest texture, but none of that made by the Romanized Britons ; so that in all probability this was one of the primitive settlements of our *Aborigines*. Continuing along the same track, the ridge is again intersected by an ancient bank and ditch, which are lost in the valleys on each side.”\*

CHISELBURY-CAMP is placed on the commanding brow of one of the hills composing this ridge just mentioned. It is a single ditched intrenchment, in the form of an irregular circle, with an outer work and entrance facing the south-east. The vallum is twenty-seven feet in height ; and the whole work is three furlongs and one hundred and fifty-four yards in circumference. The area within the ramparts comprises an extent of ten acres and a half. Two ancient banks and ditches issue from this encampment, and descend into the valleys on either side of the ridge. Taking into view its circular form, and the regularity which is apparent in its construction and arrangement, Sir Richard Hoare is inclined to attribute this work to the Romans, or to the Romanized Britons.

The village of BROAD-CHALK, situated in a valley on the south-east, is the birth-place of JOHN BEKINSAU, an author of eminence, and a particular friend of the celebrated Leland. He was descended from a good family, and was born about the year 1496. Having acquired the rudiments of education at Wykeham's school, at Winchester, he was sent at a very early age to New College, Oxford, where he distinguished himself by his proficiency in the Greek language. In 1520, he became perpe-



tual fellow; and in 1526 took the degree of master of arts. In 1538 he resigned his fellowship, and married. After this the particulars of his life are little known, but he appears to have been in good esteem with King Henry VIII. and Edward VI. for his activity in the cause of the Reformation. When Mary ascended the throne, however, he changed his religion to suit the fashion of the times, and hence fell into disgrace on the accession of Elizabeth. Bekinsau died the 26th of December, 1559, at Sherborne, a village in Hampshire, to which place he had retired to avoid the contempt which is inseparable from the dereliction of religious principle\*.

In the vicinity of this village are many remains of antiquity, most of which are described by Mr. Aubrey, in his *Monumenta Britannica*.—"At Broad-Chalk, (just by the farme) near the river side, south of the church, between the farm and the vicar's house, is a ground called *Bury Orchard*, containing five acres, three roods, four poles. It is, (except on the west side, where the vicar's house stands,) encompassed with a bank of great breadth, not now very high: it is square, and with great convenience for aquation, which, (as Livy saith) the Romans did principally respect. The banks are as big as those at Norbury, in Gloucestershire; but nobody has taken notice of it before, though obvious enough. The camp went up above the vicarage-house to the brow of the hill westward, perhaps as much more at least." Aubrey possessed an estate in this parish, where he occasionally resided.

A small barrow, on the South Down of Broad-Chalk-farm, preserves the name of *Gawen's Barrow*, as commonly supposed, from

\* Bekinsau was one of the most learned men of his age. His principal work is intituled "*De Supremo et Absolute Regis Imperio*." This piece was written in defence of the king's supremacy against the claims of the church of Rome, and was dedicated to King Henry VIII. It was printed at London in 1546, in octavo, and afterwards in the first volume of "*Monarchia Romani Imperii*," &c. by Melchior Goldast Hamensfeldius. Wood's *Athen. Oxon.* Vol. I. col. 307. Edit. 1813. Leland, *Collect.* Vol. V. p. 150, where are some encomiastic lines on this work.

from some one of the family of Gawen having been buried here. This family was of great antiquity, and held the manor of Norrington, in the adjoining parish of Alwasterton, during several centuries. Caxton, in his Chronicle, mentions a Gawen, king Arthur's nephew, and a knight of the Round Table, who was slain in battle against the traitor Mordred, at the landing at Sandwich. Sir Gawen was sister's son to the British monarch, and is conjectured to have been the founder of the Wiltshire family\*. He was buried in Scotland, his native country, so that this *tumulus*, if properly named, must have been the sepulchre of a descendant whose death occurred before the complete establishment of Christianity. The last Abbess of Wilton, according to Aubrey, was a Lady Gawen. The same author further observes, that the farm and manor of Broad-Chalk anciently belonged to the Abbey of Wilton, "and was granted to that monastery by the name of Cheolcan, by King Edgar, A. D. DCCCLXXIV. *annoque regni XV.* as appears by the leger booke of the sayd abbey, in the hands of the Earle of Pembroke, with one page in Saxon, and another in Latin."

BISHOPSTONF, a small village about four miles to the north-west of Salisbury, is remarkable for two stone coffins in its church, which are generally supposed to have contained the relics of two ancient bishops, and to have given name to the

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place.

\* In the *Squire's Tale* of Chaucer, this Sir Gawen, or Gawayne, is thus mentioned.

" This straunge knight that come thus sodeynly,  
 All armed save his bede full royally,  
 subdued the king and quene, and lordis all,  
 by order, as they sittin in the hall,  
 With so high reverence, and obdisaunce.  
 As well in speche as in countenance,  
 That Gawayn with his old courtesye,  
 Though he came agen out of fairye,  
 He cou'de him not amende in with no word.

place. The correctness of this opinion, however, we have not been able to ascertain. Bishopstone church, with its appurtenances, formerly belonged to the priory of Monkton-Farley, having been presented to that religious establishment by Humphrey de Bohun, together with pasturage within the parish for one hundred sheep. The living is a rectory in the Deanery of Wyly, and in the patronage of the Earl of Pembroke.

TONY STRATFORD, a small village and parish annexed, was formerly the lordship of Thomas de West, who died possessed of it 10 Richard II. and whose grandson Reginald de West was created Lord de la Warr, by Henry VI.

### WARDOUR CASTLE,

the seat of the noble family of Arundel, is a very large and magnificent mansion, erected between the years 1776 and 1784, from the designs of Mr. Paine, architect. At a short distance from the present house are the ruins of the old CASTLE, which constitute a prominent feature in the surrounding scenery. This ancient structure is of remote origin. Before the time of Edward III. it was the baronial residence of the family of St. Martin, one of whom, Lawrence St. Martin, was knight of the shire in the thirty-fourth year of that monarch's reign. From that family it passed into the possession of the Lovels, and continued part of their property during several successions; subsequently it was acquired by the Lords Touchet, Audley, and Willoughby de Broke; and ultimately by Sir John Arundel, whose son Thomas was created Lord Arundel of Wardour by James I.\*

In

\* This nobleman was among the most distinguished characters of his age. While only a very young man he went to Germany, and entering as a volunteer into the Imperial army rendered himself highly conspicuous for skill and bravery in several campaigns against the Turks. At the battle of Gian he was so fortunate as to take the sacred Ottoman standard with his own hands, for which

In the history of this castle, no event of particular importance occurs till the reign of Charles I. when it was besieged by a detachment of the Parliamentary army, 1300 strong, under Sir Edward Hungerford. At this period Lord Arundel \* was at Oxford attending his majesty, and the custody of the castle was entrusted to his lady, (Blanch, daughter to the Earl of Worcester,) who shewed herself truly worthy of the confidence which her husband had reposed in her resolution and fidelity. With a garrison consisting of no more than twenty-five men she bravely withstood every effort of the enemy to obtain possession of the place, during a vigorous bombardment of five days, and at length consented to surrender only upon the most honourable terms, choosing rather to perish herself than give up her brave adherents to the vengeance of the republican troops †. These terms,

which exploit, and his many other daring and important services, he was raised to the rank of *Count of the Holy Roman Empire*, by patent dated at Prague Dec. 14, 1595. This elevation gave rise to a keen dispute among the English peers, as to whether honours conferred by foreign potentates should entitle their possessor to place or precedence, or any other privilege in England, which was decided in the negative in consequence of Queen Elizabeth's having expressed her dislike to her subjects seeking after foreign titles. King James, however, was of a different opinion, and thought Sir Thomas's services deserved encouragement; and for that reason gave him an English peerage. Lord Arundel died at Wardour Castle, which he had decorated at a vast expense, and was buried in the Church of Tisbury, where a monument remains to his memory, which will be noticed in the sequel. Collins's Peerage of England, Vol. VII. p. 45. Edit. 1812.

\* This nobleman, (the second Lord Arundel of Wardour,) died at Oxford of a wound received at the battle of Lansdown, fought about the time the castle was besieged. Collins's Peerage, Vol. VII. p. 47.

† In the "*Mercurius Rusticus*," a species of political newspaper, written in the Royalist cause, by Bruno Ryves, chaplain to Charles I. it is stated that the besiegers sprung two mines during the siege of this castle, and that they often "tendered some unreasonable conditions to surrender; to give the ladies, both the mother and daughter-in-law, and the women and children,

terms, of which the original copy is still preserved by the present noble owner, were as follows :

“ Wardour Castle the 8th of May, 1643.

“ Whereas the Lady Blanch Arundel, after five days’ siege, offered to surrender to us the castle of Wardour, upon disposition, and hath given her word to surrender it.

“ These are, therefore, to assure her ladyship of these conditions following :

“ That the said castle, and whatsoever is within it shall be surrendered forthwith.

“ That the said Lady Blanch, with all the gentlewomen, and other women servants, shall have their lives, and all fitting respect due to persons of their sex and quality ; and be safely conveyed unto Bath if her ladyship likes, not to Bristol ; there to remain till we have given account to the Parliament of her work.

“ That all the men within the castle shall come forth and yield themselves prisoners unto us, who shall all have their lives, excepting such as have merited otherwise by the laws of the kingdom before their coming to this place, and such as shall refuse or neglect to come forth unto us.

“ That there shall be care taken that the said Lady Blanch shall have all things fitting for a person of her quality, both for her journey, and for her abiding until the Parliament give further order ; and the like for the other gentlewomen, who shall have all their wearing apparel.

“ That there shall be a true inventory taken of all the goods which

quarster, but *not the men*. The ladies courageously and nobly disdained and rejected their offers.” Seward’s *Anecdotes of Distinguished Persons*, Vol. IV. Edit. 1798.

During the direful and disastrous civil wars, female bravery, fortitude, and fidelity, were often put to severe trial. That of Blanch, Lady Arundel, is one instance, and in that of Charlotte, Countess of Derby, at Latham Hall, Lancashire, is another of a similar description. See *Beauties of Lancashire*, Vol. IX. p. 218.

which shall be put in safe custody until the further pleasure of the Parliament be signified therein.

“That her ladyship, the gentlewomen and servants aforesaid, shall be protected by us, according to her ladyship’s desire.

(signed)                      EDWARD HUNGERFORD (S)  
WITH THODE (S).”

Such were the conditions upon which the heroic Lady Arundel and her brave garrison agreed to surrender the castle. No sooner, however, had they done so, than the republican commanders violated their engagement in every article except those respecting the preservation of lives. Not only was the castle plundered of all its valuables, but many of its most costly ornaments and pictures were destroyed, and all the out-houses levelled with the ground. The very wearing apparel of the ladies was seized, and they themselves sent prisoners to Shaftsbury, whence the Lady Arundel was removed to Bath, and separated from her sons, who were sent to Dorchester. “In vain doth the mother intreat that these pretty pledges of her lord’s affections may not be snatched from her. In vain do the children embrace and hang about the neck of their mother, and implore help from her, that neither knows how to keep them, nor yet how to part from them; but the rebels having lost all bowels of compassion remain inexorable. The complaints of the mother, the pitiful cry of the children prevail not; like ravenous wolves they seize on the prey, and though they do not crop, yet they transplant these olive branches, that stood about their parents’ table.”\*

The castle being thus surrendered, was immediately garrisoned for the Parliament, and the command of it given to Edmund Ludlow, Esq. one of the most zealous and active partizans of the republican cause in the west of England. He did not, however, hold it any considerable length of time; for, having been besieged in it, in the course of the summer, by the royalists under Lord Arundel; and Sir Francis Doddington, he was compelled to deliver

\* Seward’s Anecdotes, Vol. I. p. 436.

liver it up to them, though not till after a brave and determined resistance of several weeks. A long account of this siege is given by Mr Ludlow in his *Memoirs*,\* where he complains bitterly of the royalists breaking the articles of capitulation, even so far as to take away the lives of some of his soldiers, under the pretence of their having been deserters. Such are the horrors, attendant upon civil war, in which the malignant passions are always far more violent, and give birth to greater cruelties than in ordinary warfare.

From the injury sustained by the castle in these two sieges, especially in the latter, it appears never after to have been either inhabited, or made use of as a place of defence. At present it is a mass of ruins covered with ivy, and not even retaining sufficient features to enable the topographer to discriminate its former arrangement and extent. The site of these ruins is beneath a "grand amphitheatrical hill," enveloped in wood, and commanding at certain points some beautiful and distant views. Along the side of this hill, a walk, called the *Terrace*, leads through a variegated parterre, ornamented with artificial rock-work to the grand entrance to the castle, over which is a head of Our Saviour in a niche, with these words :

" SUB NUMINE TVO  
STET GENUS ET DOMUS.

" Under thy protection may our house and race be upheld."

And immediately beneath are the arms of the family, with the following inscription :

" Gentis Arundellæ Thomas Lanherria proles  
Junior, hoc meruit, primo sedere loco ;  
Ut sedit cecidit sine crimine plectitur ille  
Insons, insontem fata sequuta probant  
Nam quæ patris erant Mattheus filius erit  
Empta auxit : studio principis aucta monent  
Comprecor aucta diu maneant agenda per ævum  
Haec dedit, eripuit, restituitque Deus."

" Sprang

\* Vol. I. p. 80—105. 3 vols, 8vo.

" Sprung from the Arundel Lanbournian race,  
 Thomas, a worthy branch, possessed this place ;  
 Possessing fell !—Him, guiltless heaven removed,  
 And by his son's success him guiltless proved ;  
 By royal grace, restor'd to these domains,  
 Matthew, his heir, increased them and retains :  
 Through ages, may they yet enlarg'd descend,  
 And God the gift resum'd, renew'd, defend.\*

The chief remains of this castle consist of a sexagonal court, which formed the centre of the ancient mansion in its perfect state. In the court is a very deep well, which was sunk by Mr. Tindlow to supply his garrison with water, during the siege we have just mentioned. The supply, however, seems to have been extremely scanty, as he informs us that his soldiers drank in the course of every day the whole of the water which was collected in the night. Several door-ways open into the court from different apartments in the castle, but only one staircase can now be ascended, which leads to the summit of the edifice.

Almost contiguous are the remains of the mansion, which was occupied by the family after the destruction of the castle till their removal to the present residence about thirty-four years ago, when the former was converted into a farm-house, with its necessary offices.

The new edifice, which stands about a mile from the ruins of the ancient castle, is accounted at once a noble and sumptuous edifice. Approaching it by the principal entrance to the grounds on the road leading from Salisbury to Shaftesbury, it seems to emerge from the bosom of a thick grove, and at length displays itself fully to view, seated on a gentle eminence, and surrounded by a lawn and thick woods. The whole building is composed  
 of

\* The above lines refer to the trial and execution of Sir Thomas Arundel February 6, 1552, who was implicated with the Duke of Somerset, in the charge of conspiring to murder John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland. His estates, however, were not forfeited, but descended to his son, Matthew, whom Queen Elizabeth knighted in 1574.



of free-stone, and consists of a centre and two wings, which project from the body on the north side, in a curvilinear form. The entrance front, looking towards the north, is handsomely ornamented with pilasters, and half-columns of the Corinthian order. The entrance on this side opens into a spacious hall, thirty feet in length, and twenty-four in breadth. This hall conducts to the rotunda stair-case, which claims the approbation of every person of taste and science, and is probably the finest specimen of modern architectural ornament in the kingdom. "A double flight of steps leads to a peristyle of the Corinthian order, 144 feet in circumference. Eight fluted columns, with proper frieze and cornice, support a lofty cupola, richly ornamented with trophies of music. The frieze is adorned with foliage, lions, wolves' heads, &c. being part of the family arms; and the arch leading into the saloon is also enriched with the same; disposed in a fancy ornament, wherein the German honours hold a conspicuous place. The doors leading to the different apartments are mahogany, in niches, elegantly and tastefully decorated. The whole produces the most beautiful coup d'oeil I ever beheld."\*

The rooms on the principal floor of this mansion are twenty-six in number, and contain a variety of paintings by the first masters, as well as several curiosities which are alike interesting to the artist and to the connoisseur. The paintings most admired in the collection are the following :

Portraits of the late Lord and Lady Arundel : painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds.

Portrait of BLANCH, LADY ARUNDEL, whose heroic conduct has been previously mentioned. It was copied from an old, but very indifferent original, by the accomplished *Angelica Knuffman*, who stands unrivalled as a female painter.

*Our Saviour taken from the Cross* : by *Spagnoletto*, or *Spagnoleto*. This is a most powerful and impressive picture. The dead figure may be considered a very exact copy of nature. The attitude of the Virgin is that of kneeling, with her

\* *Beauties of Wiltshire*. By J. Britton, Vol. I. p. 254—5.

her hands clasped, and her eyes uplifted to heaven, and expressive of the most ardent anxiety and the deepest affliction. The starting tear seems congealed and fixed by the intensity of her anguish; and the whole countenance displays the greatest pungency of sorrow.

*An Head of an Old Woman*: by Rembrandt. In this portrait the light and shade are strongly contrasted, and the colouring is singularly fine.

*St. Jerome*: by Rubens.

*Two Snow Pieces*, by Foschi, a young artist of very singular talents, who was patronized by the Emperor Francis, and placed by him in the Florentine Academy. Contrary to the practice of most landscape painters, the subjects chosen by Foschi for the exercise of his pencil were winter scenes, which he executed with much truth of colouring and effect.

*St. Bernardine*: by Titian. The head is excellent, and the countenance strongly marked.

*Storm at Sea*: by Vernet; and a *Calm, Moonlight*, by the same artist. These pictures form a striking contrast to each other, and both are certainly very fine. In the former the spectator perceives a combination of images expressive of sublimity and horror, and calculated to excite ideas the most terrific and appalling; while, in the latter, every thing is placid and serene, and tends to harmonize and soothe the mind. The composition, the colouring, the expression, and ordonnance of both these pictures are all admirable.

*Tobit going to meet his Son*, by Gerard Douw. This picture is excellent; and forms, with regard to size, an exception to the general stile of the artist, whose pieces are usually small. The minutia, no less than the principal figures, are executed with the utmost fidelity. The earthen pitcher, the spinning-wheel, and other domestic utensils, are apparently real objects, and not painted representations. The face, hands, legs, and drapery of the old man, are admirably touched.

Two capital Landscapes, with figures of Robbers : by Salvator Rosa. And

A large Picture of Rocks, by the same.

Two other Landscapes, with figures, likewise by the same powerful artist.

Inside of a Church, by P. Néefs. This painting formed part of the celebrated collection of the eccentric Monsieur Verelst of Brussels.\*

Two landscapes, by Gasper Poussin.

Joseph interpreting the dreams of Pharaoh's Baker and Butler, by Murillo. A very fine picture.

A Shepherd playing on the bagpipe by M. Angelo de Caravaggio.

The Infant Jesus, sleeping on a Cross, by Titian. A very capital picture, and much admired by Sir Joshua Reynolds.

The Head of an Hermit, by Salvator Rosa.

The Holy Family, by Andrea del Sarto.

The appearance of the Angel to Hagar, by Pompeio Battoni. This is a singularly fine piece. Hagar, the prominent figure, is represented in the deepest distress, with her head reclining on her arm, which is finely coloured, and Ishmael appears fainting in the back ground.

An old Woman looking at a Piece of Money, by Rubens.

Portrait of Cardinal Pole, copied from the celebrated original formerly in the Vatican palace at Rome.

Portrait of Sir *Thomas More*, copied from the original of Holbein, in the possession of the Crescensi family at Rome : by a German artist, who was so celebrated for imitating Holbein that the

\* This gentleman, from an imaginary indisposition, actually remained in his house for twenty-eight years without being once abroad during that long period. But notwithstanding his voluntary confinement, he maintained a most sumptuous establishment, and possessed a magnificent collection of pictures, and various curiosities. He had a physician constantly in his house, and ordered a consultation of medical men every month, though in fact he enjoyed the most perfect bodily health.

the best connoisseurs could not distinguish the original from the copy.\*

A representation of Roman Ruins presented to Lady Arundel by Prince Rezzonico, who patronized the new manufactory established at Rome, called CAUSTICK. It is a composition of wax which is laid upon a board, and has the appearance of water-colour painting.

In Lady Arundel's cabinet is a small picture by Vernet, coloured, in imitation of Breughel; also some drawings by Lord Clifford, and a number of pencil sketches and drawings by the late Giles Hussey, Esq. Two of the latter are very delicately finished. One of them, a profile, is a portrait of himself; and the other is the likeness of a man who was porter to his brother.†

In Lord Arundel's study is an exquisite piece of workmanship, in ivory, of our Saviour on the Cross, said to have been executed by Michael Angelo. The body of the Saviour is represented about twelve inches long, and is cut out of a single piece of ivory. The arms extended and nailed to the cross are carved from two smaller pieces, and joined at the shoulders.

Several other excellent specimens of carved work; in ivory, are deposited in Lady Arundel's cabinet, besides a variety of other curiosities.

We cannot omit to notice the GRACE-CUP, or WASSER-BOWL, which stands in the dining-parlour. This curious specimen of  
VOL. XV.---Sept. 1813. R ancient

\* The following is the story respecting the manner in which the original came into the possession of the Crescenti family. When Sir Thomas More was beheaded, the picture was flung out of the Royal Palace to the populace by order of Anne Boleyn, and afterwards purchased by the Marquis Crescenti, who was then in London.

† Giles Hussey was a very singular character. The late Mr. Barry, the painter, considered him to be a man of powerful talents. Many anecdotes are related of him in Britton's "Beauties of Wiltshire," Vol. I. and in Edwards's Anecdotes of English Artists.

ancient workmanship formerly belonged to Glastonbury Abbey. It is formed of oak, in the shape of a modern tankard, and is lacerated in the interior, with a strong varnish, which has no doubt contributed to its present perfect state of preservation. "The contents of the cup," says the Rev. Mr. Milner, in a letter to Mr. Gough, "is just two quarts of ale measure, and there were originally eight pegs placed one above another in the inside, which divided the contained liquor into equal quantities of half a pint each. The four uppermost of these pegs remain, and the holes are discernible from which the remaining four have fallen. On the lid is carved the Crucifixion, with the figure of the Blessed Virgin Mary on the right hand of our Saviour, and that of St. John on the left, together with a star over each of them, and a cherub on each side. The knob on the handle, which was intended for the purpose of raising up the cover, represents a bunch of grapes. Round the body of the cup itself are carved the twelve apostles, whose names in capital letters are inscribed on labels under their respective figures. Each of them holds in his hands an open book, except St. Peter, who bears a key, St. John, who supports a chalice, and Judas Iscariot, who grasps at a purse. Beneath the labels of the apostles are seen birds, beasts, and full grown flowers of different kinds; and under these again serpents, which by two and two, joining their heads together, produce the forms of strange monsters; but in all these last mentioned ornaments, I can discover no consistent meaning, and therefore I attribute them to the mere fancy of the artist. The three feet on which the cup stands, and which descend an inch below the body of it, consist of as many figures of lions couchant." \* "

Having thus described the cup, and stated the few circumstances known of its history, the learned antiquary proceeds to offer some observations on its probable antiquity, which he concludes:

\* *Archæologia*, Vol. XI. p. 411.

cludes from the style of the ornamental carving, the shape of the letters, the emblems and costume of the apostles, and other correlative arguments must be as high as the time of the Saxons, and most likely about the reign of Egbert. The size of the vessel, he adds, and the position of the pegs at equal distances, shew that it was intended for different persons to drink out of, in certain quantities, on particular occasions. Hence the inference that it is a Grace-Cup, (*poculum charitatis*,) or Wassel bowl, which, in great monasteries, stood on the abbot's table, at the upper end of the refectory, or eating-hall, to be circulated among the community at the discretion of the abbot himself\*.

In the west wing of the house is the chapel, which was built originally from the designs of Paine; but the sanctuary has been since added by Soane. The whole measures ninety-five feet in length, and forty in breadth and height, and has three galleries; one for the accommodation of Lord Arundel and his friends, and two for the reception of the choir and of visitors †. The eastern end recedes into a semicircular form, and is lighted by several windows, ornamented with painted glass by Eggington. The side walls are divided into compartments, which are filled with paintings. The altar is fixed on a splendid sarcophagus of Verde Antique, dug up from some ruins near Rome, and is com-

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posed

\* Mr. Milner, speaking of the origin of Wasselling, says that the practice of drinking out of the same vessel with certain particular ceremonies and forms of speech, was in use among the Greeks and the Romans, as well at their sacrifices as at their feasts. The custom, however, of Wasselling, strictly so called, or of drinking healths, he supposes to have originated in Germany, and to have been introduced into this island, together with the passion itself for drinking, by our Saxon ancestors. In proof of this he instances the story of Rowenna, who is said to have captivated King Vortigern by her manner of drinking his health before she presented the cup to him. *Archæologia*, Vol. XI. p. 419, where the curious reader will find some further remarks on this practice, which our limits preclude us from stating.

† The choir gallery is supported by composition pillars, in imitation of Sienna marble.

posed of different species of fine stones, chiefly marble, porphyry, agate, and amber. Over it is a magnificent crucifix of silver, and two censers of solid gold, embossed with the same metal. This altar was executed by Giacomo Quirrenzo, an Italian. The altar-piece is a dead Christ, by Cades.

Near the altar a handsome monument of marble has been erected in memory of Thomas, Lord Arundel, second Baron of Wardour, and of Lady Blanch, his wife, who appears from the inscription to have died the 28th of October 1649.

In the same wing with this chapel is the state bed-chamber, which contains a very elegant bed, fitted up for the use of King Charles I. when he paid a visit to Lord Arundel in the early period of his reign, and while he yet enjoyed the confidence of the Parliament, and of the country.

To the south, east, and west of the house, the grounds present a fine park-like appearance; and are diversified by much inequality of surface, and by numerous plantations. To the south-east the scene is terminated by a fine hanging wood, which forms a very beautiful feature from the house; and at the base of this is seen the ivy crowned ruins of the old castle.

Tisbury is a long straggling village, and gives name to one of the largest parishes in England. The church is a spacious edifice of great antiquity, "in the simplest and best style of the Norman Gothic architecture." The carvings and ornaments with which it is embellished bear a strong resemblance to those that support the roof at Westminster Hall. The following persons of the Arundel family, among others, have monuments in this church.

*Margaret Howard*, "daughter of Lord Edmund Howard, third son of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, and wife of Sir Thomas Arundel of Wardour Castle, a famous knight." She died, A. D. 1571. \*

*Sir Matthew Arundel*, who died in 1598, also his younger son *William Arundel*, whose death happened A. D. 1591.

*Thomas,*

\* The melancholy fate of this lady's husband has been already mentioned. Vide ante, p. 237.

*Thomas, first Lord Arundel of Wardour*, who lies under an elegant marble monument in the chancel, inscribed thus :

“ Thomas Dominus Arundelius  
Primus Baro de Warder Sacri  
Romani Imperii Comes. Obiit.  
7mo. Die Novembris. Aetatis  
Suae 79. Anno Domini 1639.”

“ Sicut Pullus Hirundinis sic clamabo.

Is. xxxviii. 3, 14.”

*Ann Philipson*, his lordship's second wife, is commemorated by another handsome marble monument, near the above. From the inscription she appears to have died June 28, 1637.

*Ann Baroness Baltimore*, daughter of the above lady, has also a marble monument here. She died A. D. 1649, and is said to have been a woman of singular beauty and accomplishments.

*Thomas, second Lord Arundel*, and his lady *Blanch*, both lie under marble monuments close to each other. The former died May 19, 1643, and the latter October 28, 1649. Here are also inscriptions to the memory of *Cicely Compton*, wife of Henry, third Lord Arundel, who died March 21, 1675; *Thomas, fourth Lord Arundel*, who died A. D. 1712; *Henry, fifth Lord Arundel*, who died April 20, 1726; *Henry, sixth Lord Arundel*, who died June 29, 1746; *Elizabeth-Eleanor*, (first wife of the last mentioned Henry) who died May 22, 1728; *Ann Herbert*, his second wife, who died in September 1757; *Henry, seventh Lord Arundel*, who died September 12, 1756; *Mary*, daughter of Richard-Arundel Bealing, of Lanherne, and wife of the above Henry, who died February 21, 1769; \* and *Henry, the eighth Lord Arundel*, who died in December 1803.

From the name of this village Sir Richard Hoare supposes

R 3

there

\* By the marriage of this couple the two branches of this ancient family were united, after a separation of two hundred years.



there must have been a *bury*, or tumulus, situated somewhere in its immediate vicinity, but acknowledges that he was unable to discover any nearer than Castle Ditches, which will be described in the sequel. He tells us, however, that he found the following note among the MS. memorandums of the late Mr. Cunnington, of Heytesbury. "In a field near Place Farm, in the parish of Tisbury, was a circular work, with a vallum set round with stones, and a large stone placed erect in the centre. On removing this stone, (which was twelve feet high and four feet wide,) by Lord Arundel's order, to the old castle at Wardour, a skeleton was found at the depth of eighteen inches under the surface, deposited close to the central stone."

SIR NICHOLAS HYDE, Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and Lord Treasurer of England in the reign of James I. was born in this parish, and most probably at Wardour Castle, of which his father, in right of his wife, had a long lease from the Arundel family. The date of his birth is uncertain, but he was a younger son, and bred a lawyer in the Middle Temple. In 1626 he was made serjeant; and soon afterwards obtained the dignified stations above-mentioned. He enjoyed them, however, only a few years, having died in 1631.

SIR JOHN DAVIES, an eminent lawyer, poet, and political writer, was born at the hamlet of *Chisgrove*, also in this parish, about the year 1570. After acquiring the rudiments of education, he entered himself a commoner of Queen's College, Oxford, at the early age of fifteen. Here he studied with the greatest ardour till the year 1588, when he removed to the Middle Temple, London, in which Society he conducted himself with so much irregularity, that he was expelled in Feb. 1597-8. Upon this occurrence he retired again to Oxford; and shortly after began his literary career, by the publication of twenty-six acrostics in honour of Queen Elizabeth, under the title of "*Hymns of Astrea*." The merit and flattery of these effusions attracted the notice of the court, and gained for their author considerable popularity. Thus encour-  
aged,

raged, he produced the following year his *Nosce Teipsum*, or "Poem on the Immortality of the Soul," which completely established his poetical fame. But though devoted to the muses, Mr. Davies did not entirely neglect his professional studies. Sensible of the impropriety of his conduct while in the Middle Temple, he offered to make ample atonement for his past offences, if the Society would restore him to his chambers. This application being backed by the influence of Lord Ellesmere, was happily successful, and he was re-admitted a member in Trinity Term, 1601. About the same time he was chosen representative for Corfe-Castle, in the last Parliament held by Queen Elizabeth, and particularly distinguished himself in the celebrated debate concerning monopolies. On the death of the queen he accompanied Lord Hunsdon to Scotland, to congratulate King James on his accession to the English throne. That monarch being informed that he was the author of *Nosce Teipsum*, is said to have embraced him, and given him assurances of his patronage and support. Accordingly, in 1603, Mr. Davies was appointed first Solicitor, and soon afterwards Attorney-General for Ireland, and frequently acted as one of the justices of assize in that country. In 1606, having paid a visit to England, he was made serjeant-at-law, and received the honour of knighthood. During the whole period of his connection with the Irish government, he displayed great activity and judgment in proposing, and carrying into execution, measures for the civilization and instruction of the people. In 1612 he published a work, intituled, "A Discovery of the True Causes why Ireland was never entirely subdued and brought under Obedience to the Crown of England until the beginning of his Majesty's happy Reign." This performance was dedicated to the king, and was received by the public as a production of great interest and importance. The same year in which it made its appearance, Sir John received the appointment of king's serjeant; and, at the ensuing meeting of Parliament, was elected Speaker of the lower house. In 1614 he published "A Declaration of our Sovereign Lord the King concerning the title of his

Majesty's Son, Charles Prince of Wales, and Duke of Cornwall ;" and, in 1615, his Reports of Cases, adjudged in the Irish Courts, likewise issued from the press, and confirmed the title he already held to the character of a profound and erudite lawyer. Sir John died by apoplexy on the 7th of December, 1626, a few days after he had been raised to the dignity of Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench.

Sir John Davies published several works besides those already mentioned.

ANSTY is a small village remarkable for the antiquity of its church,\* and for having been the seat of an ancient house of Hospitallers, founded by Walter de Turbervill, in the reign of King John ; and endowed, at the Dissolution, with an annual revenue, amounting to 811. 8s. 5d. An old barn, with " Gothic windows," still standing near the church, is supposed to have formed a portion of this hospital.

DR. RICHARD ZOUCH, an eminent civil lawyer of the seventeenth century, was a native of this village. He was a younger son of an ancient and noble family, and received the rudiments of education at Winchester School, whence he removed to New College, Oxford. Here he took the degree of B. L. C. and soon after began to practise as an advocate in Doctor's Commons ; and attained such distinction, that, in 1619, he was nominated Regius Professor of Civil Law. About the same time he was introduced into Parliament through the interest of his kinsman, Lord Edward Zouch, and afterwards successively became Chancery of the Diocese of Oxford, Principal of St. Albans's Hall, and Judge of the High Court of Admiralty. On the breaking out of the rebellion, having submitted to the commissioners, he retained all his situations except the last. He wrote several books on the feudal-canonical, ecclesiastical, and herald laws ; and was regarded as a very able and learned civilian. He died in March, 1660.

#### • CASTLE

\* A writer in the Gentleman's Magazine for the year 1799, says, it is, without exception, the oldest church in the whole diocese.

**CASTLE-DITCHES** is a large encampment, situated on a commanding eminence close to the village of *Spelbury*, which Sir Richard Hoare thinks was probably the ancient name of the earthen work itself. This intrenchment consists of a treble ditch and ramparts, ranged in the form of an irregular triangle. The circuit of the outer vallum is seven furlongs eighty-eight yards; and each of the ramparts measures forty feet in height on the scarp side. The entire area, which is under tillage, comprises twenty-three acres and three-quarters. The only decided entrance is situated towards the south-east; but there is a narrow adit on the opposite side; and there may not unlikely have been others, though they are now enveloped by the thick wood which covers three-fourths of the whole circumference of the ramparts.

**DONHEAD-ST. MARY**, and **DONHEAD-ST. ANDREW**, are two considerable straggling villages, situated to the south of Wardour. Near the latter is *Donhead-Hall*, the property of Godfrey Kneller, Esq. grandson to the celebrated painter, Sir Godfrey Kneller.\* The house is situated on an eminence, and still contains part of the collection made by the original possessor. For some years it was occupied by John Gordon, Esq. who has recently built

\* Sir Godfrey Kneller was born at Lubeck, about the year 1648. On coming to England he was warmly patronized by King Charles II. and, after his death, by his successors, down to George I. in whose reign Sir Godfrey died. This artist painted portraits of no fewer than ten crowned heads; four kings of England, and three queens; the Czar of Muscovy; Charles III. King of Spain, afterwards Emperor; and Lewis XIV. besides several electors and princes. Sir Godfrey does not appear to have ever been married; but he had a natural daughter by a beautiful Quaker, who generally sat for the pictures of St. Cecilia, St. Agnes, &c. This daughter married a gentleman of the name of Huckle, and inherited the greatest part of her father's property, and the collection of pictures mentioned in the text. Huckle, in consequence of the property, changed his name for that of Kneller, and fixed his residence at Donhead-Hall, as did also his son, who died about three years ago, when the grandson succeeded. A portrait of the beautiful Quaker is in the possession of the Master of Dulwich College.

built an elegant cottage at about two miles distance, called **WINSCOMBE**.

**CASTLE-RING** is an earthen work on the summit of *Tittle-Path-Hill*, which rises on the western side of the village of **Donhead-St.-Andrew**. This intrenchment consists of a single ditch and vallum, and comprehends an area of fifteen acres and a half. The circuit of the ditch is four furlongs and one hundred and thirty-two yards, and the depth of the vallum is forty feet. According to its present plan, there appears to have been four entrances to this camp; two on the north and south sides, which are still used as road-ways to the fields within its area, and two on the west and east sides, which are so much obscured by wood, as to be scarcely distinguishable. On the west side are traces of a deep ditch and vallum, which Sir R. Hoare conceives to have been constructed to render this quarter more effectually secure against attack, as the ground is more level here than on the other sides.

South from Wardour, near the village of **Berwick-St.-John**, is **FERN-HOUSE**, the respectable seat of Thomas Grove, Esq. A large garden is attached to this mansion; and the pleasure-grounds are laid out in a pleasant and beautiful style.

**WILLIAM THORN**, a celebrated linguist and divine of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, was born at the village of *Semley*, in the vicinity of Donhead. The precise period of his birth is uncertain; but he was educated at Wykeham's school and college; and became perpetual fellow of the latter in 1587. In 1593 he was constituted professor of Hebrew in the University of Oxford, and distinguished himself greatly by his profound and critical knowledge of that language. A few years subsequent to this appointment, he was preferred to the deanery of Chichester, and took the degree of doctor in divinity. He wrote several books and sermons. His death happened February 13, 1629, when he was

buried in the cathedral church of Chichester.—See Wood's *Athenæ Oxoniensis*.

**HATCH-HOUSE**, about two miles north-west of Wardour, was formerly the property and residence of a branch of the family of Hyde, and afterwards possessed by Lord Carteret. At present it is converted into a farm-house: but in its terrace-walks, and lofty garden-walls, it still displays the external features of ancient dignity.

**PYT-HOUSE**, the seat of John Bennet, Esq. is a handsome modern mansion, of Grecian architecture, with an elegant chapel attached to it in the same style. The pleasure-grounds are extensive, and laid out with considerable taste. In digging the foundation of this house, a chest of original letters was found, addressed to an ancestor of the present proprietor, in his capacity of private secretary to Prince Rupert. These are considered very curious documents, as calculated to elucidate many events in the history of the civil wars of the seventeenth century. It is hoped the possessor will lay them before the public.

In a field, near Pyt-house, is a small earthen work, which, from its size and low situation, as well as from the construction of its ramparts, is conjectured to have been the site of some ancient Saxon or Norman castle, rather than a work of British or of Roman formation.

**TESEONT, TEFFONT, or TEFFONT-EWIAS**, was anciently the lordship of Sir Thomas Hungerford, who was escheator for this county 30th Edward III. and was the first individual who held the dignity of Speaker of the House of Commons. It was likewise the birth-place of JAMES LEY, EARL OF MARLBOROUGH, Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and Lord Treasurer of England in the reign of James I. This nobleman was the sixth son of Henry Ley, Esq. who possessed an estate in the vicinity of Teffont. He entered himself as a commoner of Brazen-Nose College, Oxford, where he took a degree in arts, and soon after became a member of the Society of Lincoln's Inn, intending to follow the profession of the law.

law. Having been called to the bar, he rose rapidly to various offices of dignity and trust. In 1603 he was made serjeant-at-law, and afterwards went to Ireland in the capacity of Chief Justice of the King's Bench. In the sixth year of James I. he received the honour of knighthood; and subsequently was named King's Attorney of the Court of Wards, in which office he conducted himself so much to his Majesty's satisfaction, that he was created a baronet 17th James I. The following year he was constituted Chief Justice of the King's Bench in England; and four years later attained the summit of official preferment, by being made Lord High Treasurer. About the same time he was elevated to the peerage by the title of Lord Ley, of Ley, in Devonshire. On the accession of Charles I. he was further advanced to the dignity of Earl of Marlborough, with the limitation of this honour, to the heirs male of his body, by Jane, his then wife; and, failing of such issue, to the heirs male of his own body. Honours had flown thick upon him, and Fortune seemed determined not to be behind. At this time the whole of his paternal estate descended to him on the demise of his five brothers, neither of them leaving issue. This acquisition of fortune, in addition to what he amassed during his holding places of such emolument as that of Lord Chief Justice, Lord High Treasurer, and Lord President of the Council, put him in possession of great wealth. He now purchased an estate at Westbury under the plain, in the church of which place his remains lie beneath a very sumptuous monument, erected by his son. He died at Lincoln's Inn, March 14, 1628.

The works of this nobleman were a treatise concerning Wards and Liveries, published while he was Attorney-General; and Reports on divers Cases in the Courts of Wards, and other Courts at Westminster, tried in the reigns of King James and King Charles, which made their appearance after his death. The various trusts reposed in him prove that he was a man of great ability and integrity; and the honours he received shew in what estimation his services were held. It has been remarked by those who knew him, that the gravity of his manners corresponded with the depth

of his understanding; and that, in a low and high situation, under all circumstances, he possessed such self command, as to display constant equanimity.

**COMPTON CHAMBERLAYNE HOUSE**, the seat of John Hungerford Penruddocke, Esq. is a commodious family mansion, seated in a luxuriant part of the county; and is noted in the annals of the civil wars as the residence of the gallant Colonel Penruddocke, whose name has been already mentioned (see page 109.) Judging from one of the rooms in the present house we may conclude that the colonel lived in a stately and rather splendid style. This apartment is lined with oak wainscot, in panels, and is also decorated with several fine and curious portraits of the officer already named, some of his associates and family. Among these is a specimen of Vandyck's pencil, from which a print has been engraved to class with the military heroes of Charles's time.\* Colonel Penruddocke was tried at Exeter, 19th of April 1655; and after a mock trial was found guilty, condemned, and executed along with Hugh Grove, Jones, and others, who had joined him and Sir Joseph Wagstaff, in their unsuccessful attempt to overthrow the government of Cromwell, and to restore Charles II. to the throne.

**DINTON-HOUSE**, the seat of William Wyndham, Esq. is seated in a fine valley, through which the river Nadder flows. The house contains several family portraits. Colonel Francis Wyndham was an associate in arms and sentiments with his neighbour, Colonel Penruddocke, of Compton-Chamberlayne, in the time of the civil wars. He was for some time governor of Bristol; and was extremely instrumental in favouring the escape of Prince Charles to France after the fatal battle of Worcester had destroyed his hopes of recovering the throne by force of arms.

**WICKBALL CAMP** is situated on an eminence which rises behind the house. It is a single-ditched intrenchment, of an irregular oblong shape. The area of this camp comprises an extent  
of

\* The portraits in this room are in excellent preservation: having recently been carefully cleaned, and restored by Mr. Jeffrey of Salisbury.



of nine acres, which, as well as the ramparts, are covered with a thick plantation of trees. The entire circumference of the ditch is three furlongs and one hundred and seventy-six yards, and the height of the vallum is thirty-three feet. The only entrance, now apparent, is at the north-west angle of the work, which is strongest and most perfect on its northern and western sides.

EDWARD HYDE, Earl of Clarendon, one of the most distinguished loyalists whose talents were called into action during the reigns of Charles I. and II. was born here, or at least in this vicinity, on the 18th of February, 1608. His family, though not hitherto ennobled, was very ancient and honourable, having inherited the estate of Norbury, in Cheshire, from the times of the Saxon dynasty. His father, who possessed a competent fortune, was esteemed to be a man of great talents and erudition, and frequently sat in Parliament in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; but, retiring from public business after her demise, he devoted the latter years of his life exclusively to the improvement of his property, and the education of his family. Young Edward, in consequence, imbibed the elements of learning at home, under the tuition of the vicar of the parish. In his fourteenth year he was sent to the University of Oxford, with a view to the church; but his elder brother, Henry, dying soon afterwards, his father altered his first resolution, and determined to breed him to the profession of the law. While yet very young, therefore, he was entered of the Middle Temple, and prosecuted his legal studies with great success, assisted by his uncle, Sir Nicholas Hyde, then treasurer of the society, and afterwards Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench. Being fond of literary pursuits, he at the same time made rapid progress in classical and general knowledge; and, by his superior qualifications, ushered himself into the acquaintance of several of the first characters of the kingdom for talents and learning. Among these friends of his youth were Lord Falkland, Selden, Hales, Waller, Sheldon, Sir Kenelm Digby, and Chillingworth, to the benefit of whose advice and society he ascribes much of his future greatness.

After

After the requisite period of attendance in the Temple, Mr. Hyde was admitted to the bar, and soon acquired extensive practice. A cause, in which he was employed by some merchants to defend them against all unjust custom-house exaction, introduced him to the notice of Archbishop Laud, (one of the commissioners of the Treasury,) who conceived so high an opinion of his abilities, that he expressed a desire to see him frequently, and took every opportunity to advance him in his profession. The patronage of this illustrious prelate, who then enjoyed the highest power and influence at court, operated with electrical force in favour of the young barrister. He was treated by the judges and the superior counsellors with a degree of consideration far above any lawyer of his standing. Business flowed in upon him rapidly; and, but for his resolution not to become a slave to his professional avocations, would have probably increased beyond all former example. Still retaining his partiality for literature and polite conversation, however, he set apart several hours every day to these purposes, and never could be prevailed upon to attend the circuits. The vacations were entirely devoted to general study, and the company of his friends, whose number it was his constant endeavour to augment; but he was cautious that all of them should be respectable for their rank, their talents, and their virtues.

Mr. Hyde's first appearance in the House of Commons was in 1640, when he took his seat as representative for the borough of Wotton-Basset, in this county; and quickly rendered himself conspicuous by a speech against the oppressions of the Marshal's Court\*. This conduct gained him much popularity among the

\* In this speech several extraordinary instances of the vexatious proceedings of the Marshal's Court are mentioned, and among others the following. A citizen having been rudely treated by a waterman for resisting payment of more than his regular fare happened to bid him begone "with his goose;" (alluding to an earl's crest on his badge, which was in reality a swan), upon which he was dragged before the Marshal's Court, and heavily fined and imprisoned, on the pretence of his having opprobriously dishonoured the dig-

the advocates for reform ; as did likewise the opposition which he manifested to the dissolution of the Parliament, a measure which took place very shortly after, and was one of the most fatal steps in the administration of Charles. In the succeeding Parliament Mr. Hyde, however, met with some difficulty in again securing his seat ; for the popular party perceiving, that, though patriotic in many of his measures, he was a firm supporter of monarchy, and professed an unalterable devotion to the established ecclesiastical government, endeavoured to find some flaw to nullify his election, but were frustrated in their attempts. Hyde now abandoned the bar entirely, and devoted his whole time and talents to public affairs, anticipating the important discussions which were about to occupy the attention of the house. In these he stood forward the resolute advocate of what he believed to be the established law ; and, by equally restraining the encroachments of the Crown and of the people, obtained a high repute with all moderate men. Happy would it have been for England if the majority of the Parliament had acted upon similar principles. The horrors of civil war might then have been averted, and the rights of the commons established without the interposition of the sword. Such, however, was not the ordination of fate. The spirit of party was too violent to await the slow progress of that gradual reform, of which only political systems are susceptible, without the inevitable sequence of convulsions, which can never be allayed but by the antidote of military despotism.

Mr. Hyde, aware of this important truth, endeavoured to stem the torrent of popular zeal ; which, though its professed object

nity of an earl by the ignorant misnomer. On another occasion a gentleman having been warmly solicited by a tailor for payment of his bill, called him a base fellow, and laid hands upon him to thrust him out of the room. The tailor justly irritated at this outrage, told his customer he " was as good a man as himself ;" for which words he was summoned to the same court, and sentenced to lose his debt, in lieu of damages for the supposed insult to gentility. *Clarendon's Life*, p. 72.

was to purify and restore vigour to the political frame, put it to the imminent hazard of an agonized dissolution. He avowed, unequivocally, his determination to maintain the regal authority unimpaired, and indeed defended the royal prerogative and the constitution in church and state, the more warily in proportion to the ardour with which they were attacked by the puritanical party. At length when he saw matters had proceeded so far that an open rupture became unavoidable, he attached himself to the monarchical cause, and was secretly admitted to the councils of the king. This circumstance continued for some time unknown to the leaders of the republican party, but was ultimately revealed by an intercepted letter from his majesty to the queen. Hyde happening to be then at York, with the court, was recalled by the Parliament; but having due notice of the event, which occasioned the summons, he declined compliance with it, and was consequently declared an outlaw, and exempted from pardon by a special vote. He now boldly threw off the mask which he had only consented to wear, in order the more effectually to serve his country; and was soon after nominated Chancellor of the Exchequer, and sworn of the privy council. This happened about the commencement of the year 1642, when he also received the honour of knighthood.

In 1644, when the defeat at Naseby had rendered the royal cause irretrievable, Hyde was selected to attend the young prince as one of his permanent council, to watch over his safety, and direct his proceedings. He accordingly accompanied him in his flight from England, first to the islands of Scilly, and afterwards to Jersey. Here the prince was commanded by his mother to repair to her, at Paris. He accordingly set off for the French metropolis with Lord Colepepper only, the rest of the council declining to attend him. Hyde remained two years longer in the island, during which time he planned, and partly executed his History of the Rebellion, and wrote a reply to the declaration of Parliament, charging the king with having been the cause of the calamities which afflicted the kingdom.

This period of literary repose was disturbed in April 1648, by a command to attend the prince in France. He accordingly set sail for Caen, in Normandy, and thence travelled to Rouen, where receiving advice that the prince was at the Hague, on the eve of sailing for England, he determined to follow him. Shortly after advices were received of the execution of the king, when the prince dispatched Sir Edward Hyde and Lord Cottington as ambassadors to Spain.

Sir Edward next retired to Antwerp, where he resided till the defeat at Worcester forced Charles once more to seek safety on the Continent, and to recal this trusty counsellor to his service. Hyde instantly obeyed the summons, and was ever after a constant attendant on his majesty's person during his exile. In 1657 he was appointed Lord Chancellor of England, a post which he accepted with great unwillingness.—After the Restoration he continued to hold this distinguished station for several years, and was regarded as the king's first and most confidential minister. His conduct in allaying the ferment naturally excited by that event was at once honourable to him as a man, and as a politician. He opposed with all his influence and eloquence every attempt of the Royalists to revenge their sufferings; and urged the propriety of the king's performing all the stipulations with the Parliament, by consenting to which alone, he had been enabled to regain his lost sovereignty. New and substantial honours now flowed in upon him. In the first year of the Restoration he was created a baron, and elected Chancellor of the University of Oxford; and in 1661, he was further honoured with the titles of Viscount Cornbury and Earl of Clarendon. He also received various grants from the Crown, which rendered his estate adequate to the maintenance of his dignity.

But the good fortune of Lord Clarendon was not of long duration. A short time after the king's return it was discovered that the Duke of York, having been attracted by the charms of his lordship's daughter, had entered into a private contract of marriage with

her. This incident was eagerly laid hold of by the disappointed royalists, to prejudice the king against the chancellor, notwithstanding the latter disclaimed all knowledge of the matter. Charles, however, acted with more than usual justice and liberality. Being convinced of the fact of a legal marriage having been actually accomplished, he resisted every importunity to countenance its disavowal. A general reconciliation took place. The lady was formally introduced at court as Duchess of York, and afterwards gave birth to two queens of England.

This embarrassing transaction having been thus settled to the chancellor's satisfaction, most people thought him secure in the royal favour; but not many years after, the frailty of his tenure was sufficiently evinced. The Earl of Bristol, having taken some dislike to his lordship for opposing the king's marriage with an Italian princess, exhibited various charges against him in the House of Lords, all of which, however, he failed to substantiate. But scarcely had the chancellor repelled these accusations, than others were brought forward; in which his enemies unhappily were more successful. For having, in the mean time, offended the monarch by expostulating with him concerning his dissipation, and the insults he daily heaped upon the queen, by forcing his mistress, the Duchess of Cleveland, into her company, Lord Clarendon found himself no longer able to oppose their designs. The king, forgetting all his faithful services to the Crown, gave him up as a sacrifice to the national odium. The great seal was demanded from him, in August 1667; and he was required to vacate all his offices of public trust. The House of Commons further voted an impeachment against him; but the Lords refused to commit him on that charge; and during the discussions on this point he was ordered by his majesty to quit the kingdom, which he immediately did, leaving behind him an address to the House of Lords, in which he endeavoured to vindicate himself from the misrepresentations of his accusers. His arguments, however, were of no avail. On the contrary, his defence was voted by both houses to be a scandalous libel; and a bill was passed against

him as a fugitive from justice. Thus the same individual who thirty years before was banished by Parliament as an adherent to his monarch, and who suffered in the cause of royalty from the purest motives, was again driven into exile by the very men whose fortunes he had supported and upheld in the hour of adversity.

Soon after his arrival in France he received an order from that court to quit the French dominions without delay. He was at Rouen when the messenger arrived with this unexpected intelligence; and though exhausted by a journey in the depth of winter, he hastened to comply with the inhospitable mandate; and directed his course towards Calais. By this time, however, his distempers had increased to such an alarming height as to threaten dissolution should he proceed on his journey. Nevertheless, the French court renewed the order for his instant departure. Shocked at the inhumanity of such a message, he sent for the chief magistrates of the town, who united in a warm remonstrance against the cruelty of his treatment. In the interval the policy of the French government towards England underwent a complete change. Clarendon was now loaded with expressions of kindness; and had a special permission from the king to reside in any part of his dominions. He, consequently, fixed upon Montpellier as the place of his retirement, where he resumed his literary pursuits with all the avidity of youth, and enjoyed the company and conversation of some of the most enlightened men in France. After an exile of seven years, he paid the debt of nature at Rouen on the 7th of December 1674, "more exhausted by his misfortunes and premature infirmities, than by length of years."

Of the public character of Lord Clarendon different estimates have been formed, according to the political opinions of the different writers who have touched upon the subject. By all, however, he is allowed to have possessed considerable abilities, and great industry and application in the management of business. The steady friend of monarchical and episcopal government, at a period  
when

when republican and puritanical principles threatened the annihilation of both, it was natural for him to refuse too great concessions to a party, whose object was not merely to establish civil and religious liberty, but to overthrow entirely the existing order of things, and to introduce rebellion and anarchy into the kingdom. At the commencement of his Parliamentary career, he acted with independence, and vehemently opposed the abuses of the court. His subsequent alliance with the royal family must not therefore be imputed to a want of patriotism, or to a love of tyranny. It was the result of principle, and of a strong aversion to the violent measures of the Parliament, whose moderate efforts for the restriction of the royal authority, and the extension of popular freedom, he uniformly supported.

Viewed as a writer, Lord Clarendon is entitled to hold a high rank in the literary annals of his country. His *Histories of the Rebellion in England and Ireland*, as well as his *Life* afford the best details both of the military and political transactions of that unhappy æra, of any author of his age, and are replete with anecdote and delineations of character. Some caution, however, must be exercised in guarding against the natural bias of his mind to favour the royal cause; for though intentional disingenuousness never appears in any of his narrations, there is a constant tendency to apologize for the measures of his own party, and to reprobate those of the Parliament. In the delineation of his public characters the same propensity is visible; and the luxuriance of his fancy, we suspect, is not unfrequently predominant over his sagacity and judgment. His style and manner of writing are in general manly and dignified; but his periods are often span out so long, as at once to destroy their force, and to obscure the sense of the passages. The copiousness of his narrations also sometimes expands into tedious prolixity, and fatigues the mind without adding to its information, or gratifying its curiosity. But with all these faults, Lord Clarendon must be admitted to be both an useful and an agreeable writer. His works, besides those already mentioned, were—A Review of the Doctrines of



Mr. Hobbes's *Leviathan*; Two Letters to the Duke and Duchess of York, on the latter's embracing the Catholic religion; A Collection of Tracts, and an Essay on the Disparity between the Estates and Conditions of George, Duke of Buckingham and Robert, Earl of Essex.\*

CHILMARK is a small village, remarkable for the excellent freestone quarries† in its immediate vicinity, and also for having given birth to JOHN DE CHILMARKI, a celebrated mathematician and philosophical writer of the thirteenth century. He was bred at Merton College, and became such a proficient in geometrical science, that he was accounted the Archimedes of his age. Bale, who furnishes us with a catalogue of his writings, speaks of his talents and habits of research in terms of the highest praise.

## HINDON

is an ancient borough and market-town, situated at the distance of ninety-six miles from London. Most of the houses are ranged in one street, which is of considerable length, and extends down the declivity of a gentle eminence. This place suffered greatly from fire in the year 1754. It was formerly noted for its manufactory of silk twist, but that branch of trade has now entirely declined here, so that the chief support of the town at present is the custom of travellers, and the small share it possesses in the linen, dowlas, and bed-tick manufactories carried on at Mere, and in the neighbourhood. Hindon is a borough by prescription, governed by a bailiff and burgesses, and has returned two members to Parliament since the 27th year of Henry VI. The elective franchise, according to the last decision of Parliament, is vested in the

\* Lives of British Statesmen, by John Macdiarmid, Esq. 4to. Lond. 1807.—Hume's History of England, Vol. VII.—Clarendon's History of the Rebellion, also "Life of Edward, Earl of Clarendon." 1759. *passim*.

† It is commonly said that the greater part of the stone used in building Salisbury Cathedral was obtained from this parish.

the "inhabitants of houses within the borough, being house-keepers and parishioners not receiving alms." The voters are estimated at two hundred and ten in number, and are chiefly in the interest of William Beckford, Esq. M. P. of Fonthill Abbey. The bailiff is the returning officer.\*

Hindon, at an early period, was the lordship of Thomas de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick. In the last century it gave the title of baron to Henry Hyde, son to the Earl of Clarendon and Rochester,

The church of this town is a modern structure, and a chapel of ease to the parish church of East-Knoyle. The living is in the presentation of the Lord Chancellor, *ex officio*. According to the Parliamentary returns of 1811, Hindon contains 173 houses, and a population of 781 persons. The petty sessions for Hindon division of the hundred of Downton are held here. About one mile east of Hindon is *Berwick St. Leonard*, which, with the chapelry of Sedghill, constitutes a rectory. In this parish is an old manor-house, built in the time of King James I. or Charles I.

In the vicinity of this town, on the north-west, are distinct  
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\* The Borough of Hindon is noted in the annals of electioneering for its venality. In 1775, on the election of F. B. Hollis, Esq. and Richard Smith, Esq. petitions were presented to the House by James Calthorpe, Esq. and Thomas Beckford, Esq. charging their opponents with bribery in obtaining their seats. The sitting members retorted the charge, and a committee having been appointed to investigate the subject, reported, that neither the successful candidates, nor the petitioners, were duly elected, as all of them, either by themselves, or by their agents, had been guilty of corruption. Mr. Dundas, therefore, moved the House for leave to bring in a bill to disfranchise the Borough of Hindon, which was granted, and the Speaker was ordered not to issue a new writ till the House should deliberate on the report. The bill being lost on account of some informality, a new one was prepared, but this also was lost from a similar cause; and a third was so much obstructed, that it was ultimately dropped, and a writ for a new election issued. The four candidates, however, were ordered to be prosecuted, when Calthorpe and Beckford were acquitted; but Smith and Hollis were found guilty.—History of Boroughs, Vol. III. 137.

marks of a considerable British village ; and, at a greater distance, are vestiges of four other similar settlements, placed on the projecting points of land on the south side of the Great Ridge Wood.

**STOCKTON-WORKS**, situated near the eastern extremity of this wood, and almost close to the Roman road leading to Old Sarum, are likewise conjectured to be indications of a British town, as their position is lofty, and the ramparts by which they are surrounded and intersected are far too slight for the purposes of military defence. According to Sir Richard Hoare, these works occupy a space of sixty-two acres, but are in a very imperfect state, the western boundary, and many of the interior ditches and valla, having been defaced by a great waggon track which has passed through them for many ages. The wood also covered a large portion of them, so that what now remains is most probably only a part of their original extent. Near the centre is a singular little work of a pentagonal form ; and east from it is another of larger dimensions, but more irregular in shape, and less clearly defined. There are now several entrances through the boundary vallum of these works ; but the only original one is on the east side, at the head of the valley. In digging within the area the antiquary last mentioned discovered a great variety of Roman coins, pieces of brass, nails, fragments of millstones, bricks, tiles, with British and Roman pottery. In short, all the vestiges of human residence and settlement. So numerous, indeed, are Roman coins here that the labourers employed to dig the flints throw them up, and sometimes leave them among the stones, forgetting, from their abundance that they are objects of antiquarian curiosity.\*

#### FONTHILL-

\* In corroboration of the opinion that these works form the site of an ancient British town, we may observe that they answer the description given by the Roman authors of the ancient towns of the Gauls and Britons. Cæsar, in mentioning the city of *Cessive* *castris*, observes, "*Oppidum autem Britanni vocant quam sitas impeditas vallo atque fossâ munierunt.*"—What the Britons

## FONTHILL-ABBEY,

the seat of William Beckford, Esq. M. P. is about two miles south-west of Hindon. This magnificent and unique mansion is justly regarded as one of the modern wonders of the West of England; and whether it be considered in the aggregate, or in its subdivisions, it must excite astonishment and delight. The house, plantations, and natural features of the place are all peculiar; and each is entitled to a particular and minute description. Indeed, without a very circumstantial account it will be impossible to furnish the stranger with adequate information, or that verbal delineation which shall at once do justice to the writer's ideas, and satisfy the demands of the reader. Limited as the present work is, this task will be impossible; and, besides, the proprietor of this splendid mansion has intimated a wish that we would withhold particular descriptions until the works be farther advanced, and their whole forms and characteristics be rendered decided and permanent. We must submit: at the same time it is hoped that Mr. Beckford will excuse us for attempting to sketch a few marking peculiarities of the grounds and mansion of Fonthill-Abbey.

The natural and scenic features of this place are bold, grand, and finely diversified. Nearly the whole of an eminence, which gradually ascends from the open country on the north, and from a fine inclosed country to the south, is covered with woods, some of which is of ancient growth, but the greater part of modern plantation. From the apex of a hill, amidst this grove, rises the lofty tower, turrets, pediments, and pinnacles of a  
mansion,

tons call a town is nothing more than a thick wood enveloped with a ditch and rampart. Strabo makes a similar remark, "*Eorum urbes,*" says this author, "*sunt nemora, latissimos enim circos, dejectis obstruunt arboribus ubi constructis tuguriis et ipsi pariter et armenti stabulantur*" Their towns are woods where they cut down the trees, build huts, and live together with their herds. Cæsar de Bello Gallico, Lib. V. Cap. VIII. Strabo

mansion, called the abbey, which assumes, externally, the character of an ancient monastic edifice. It consists of a central tower, about 270 feet in height, a lofty entrance hall, or vestibule, a wing, or transept, extending from the tower to the east, and two other wings, branching off from the centre to the north and south. The exterior elevations of each of these portions is dissimilar to the others, and each is appropriated to the different accommodations and purposes of an elegant and commodious mansion. State rooms, gallery, libraries, eating rooms, parlours, drawing-rooms, &c. &c. fitted up in a truly splendid style, and adorned with the choicest works in literature and the fine arts, conspire to render Fonthill-Abbey a place singularly interesting to the connoisseur, to the artist, and to every man of taste. The building has been chiefly erected from the designs of James Wyatt, Esq. architect; \* but many of the most eminent artists of the country have been employed in embellishing the interior.

Of the former house at Fonthill only a small fragment now remains, which is situated at the distance of nearly a mile and a half north-east from the present mansion. It was built in 1755, by the late Alderman Beckford, in place of a former house also erected by the same gentleman, which was destroyed by fire.† The whole was constructed of white freestone, quarried within

\* At the time this account is penned, we have to notice and lament the accidental death of Mr. Wyatt, who was overturned in a chariot, near Marlborough, in this county. His skull was fractured by the fall, and his death almost immediately ensued. This gentleman had been employed to execute some large works in Wiltshire, particularly the great alterations of Salisbury cathedral; the building of Fonthill Abbey, enlarging and altering Wilton House, &c.—See Monthly Magazine for Oct. 1813.—Gent. Mag. Sep. ditto.

† The loss sustained by Mr. Beckford on this occasion was estimated at upwards of 30,000*l.* of which sum only 6,000*l.* was insured. It was nevertheless borne by him with stoical fortitude. When informed of the accident which happened to the house, he calmly took out his pocket-book and began to write. The messenger, astonished at his composure and apparent indifference, asked him what he was doing; “only calculating,” he replied, “the expense of rebuilding it.”

within half a mile of the spot where it stood, and consisted of a body, or centre, with two uniform square wings attached to it by light elliptical Doric colonnades. In front was a superb portico of the Corinthian order, ascended by a noble flight of steps. The basement story, which was rusticated to the height of thirteen feet, contained an arched Egyptian hall, eighty-five feet ten inches in length, and thirty-eight feet six inches in breadth, supported by immense piers of solid stone. Many of the apartments in this house were fitted up in a very splendid style. Besides an elegant library filled with choice and valuable books, almost every room contained some interesting paintings, cabinets, and other works of art. The grounds around the house were also fine, and highly beautiful.\*

Fonthill anciently constituted the lordship of the family of the Giffards, and is still called Fonthill-Giffard, to distinguish it from a contiguous parish denominated Fonthill-Bishop. In the reign of King John, it was surrendered to that monarch, by the then proprietor Andrew Giffard, with consent of his legal heirs. In the reign of Edward III. John Mauduit, who was summoned to Parliament among the barons, possessed it, and left it with his other estates to his grand-daughter Maud. It next came into the possession of Reginald de West Lord de la Warr, from whose family it went to William Lord Moulins. This nobleman bequeathed it to his daughter and heiress Eleanor; who conveyed it by marriage into the family of the Hungerfords. Its subsequent possessors were the Mervins, from whom, through his maternal grandmother, the present proprietor is lineally descended. Fonthill was possessed, at one time, by the Cottington family, as appears by an inscription on a stone in Bath-Abbey church.

In concluding our short notice of this celebrated seat, it seems proper to state a few particulars of the life of the late **WILLIAM BECKFORD, Esq.** who may be justly ranked among the most distin-

\* For a particular account of this house, its collection of pictures, and curiosities, see Britton's Beauties of Wiltshire, Vol. I.

distinguished citizens of London. This gentleman was born in 1705, and was bred to the honourable pursuit of merchandize. In his mature years he took an active part in the public affairs of the city; and, after passing through the ordinary gradations, was elected, in 1763, to the important office of lord mayor. During Lord North's famous administration he was one of the representatives for London in Parliament, and rendered himself conspicuous by his firm support of the rights and privileges of the people. In 1770 having been a second time elected lord mayor, it was his duty, at three different times, to present petitions to his Majesty, from the Citizens and Livery, praying for a redress of grievances. The last of these petitions gave occasion to that memorable extempore reply to his Majesty's answer, which the great Lord Chatham dignified by saying, that in it "the spirit of Old England spoke." Mr. Beckford survived only a few weeks after this interview, having been carried off by a fever on the 21st of June, 1770, when the citizens, to express their admiration of his public services, ordered a statue to be erected to his memory in the Guildhall; and recorded in the inscription his magnanimous speech to the king.\*

EAST-KNOYLE, a small village, situated to the south of Hindon, is remarkable for having been the birth-place of the celebrated architect and mathematician, SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN, who was born here on the 20th of October, 1632. He was the son of Dr. Christopher Wren, rector of the parish, who placed him at an early age under the tuition of the famous Dr. Busby, of Westminster School, whence he was sent to Wadham College, Oxford, as a gentleman commoner. Here his progress in mathematics was so rapid, as to excite the admiration of several of the most eminent characters in the University. His inventions in mechanics indeed, even while a boy, were considered

\* For description of this cenotaph, see Vol. X. p. 455, of "Reveries of Wiltshire," where the reader will find the speech transcribed at full length.—See also Britton's Beauties of Wiltshire, Vol. I. p. 271.

as a very extraordinary, and certainly evinced a genius of the first class. At the age of 25 he was fixed upon to fill the astronomic chair in Gresham College, London, which he held till the year 1661, when he was chosen Savilian Professor of Astronomy at Oxford, and was created Doctor of Civil Law. About this time Dr. Wren likewise commenced his professional career as an architect, being appointed to assist Sir John Denham as surveyor-general of his Majesty's works. In 1663 he became a member of the Royal Society, the fame of which he advanced by many useful and valuable discoveries in different branches of science. In 1665 he travelled into France to survey some of the principal buildings of that country; and, at his return, was nominated architect and one of the commissioners to conduct the repairs of the old cathedral church of St. Paul, in London. On the death of Sir John Denham in 1668, he succeeded to the office of surveyor-general of the king's works. The same year he finished that magnificent edifice the Theatre at Oxford; and began the building of the Monument to commemorate the fire in London. In 1673 he resigned his professorship; and the following year received the honour of knighthood. In 1680 the Royal Society elected him their president, while he was employed in the erection of the beautiful church of St. Stephen, Walbrook, which is regarded by most writers as the masterpiece of this distinguished architect. His next great works were large additions to the palaces of Hampton Court and Winchester, Greenwich Hospital, and Chelsea Hospital, the last of which he executed without salary, or reward, in order to promote the generous purpose for which it was designed. In 1708 he was named one of the commissioners for building fifty new churches in London, and its vicinity. Many years before, he had begun the noblest of all his architectural efforts, the Cathedral of St. Paul,\* which is beyond doubt the most magnificent Protestant church in the world; and even excels the cathedral of St. Peter at Rome in the

\* For a history and description of St. Paul's Cathedral, see Vol. X. of this work, where the reader will see a more detailed account of the life of Sir Christopher, together with a list of his principal architectural works.



the grandeur and elegance of its exterior appearance. It was finished in 1710, thirteen years previous to the death of its illustrious builder, an event which occurred on the 25th of February, 1723.

Sir Christopher Wren was twice married, and had children by both his wives. He likewise sat twice in Parliament, once for Plympton, in Devonshire, and again for the united corporations of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis, in Dorsetshire. Whether he took an active part in political affairs is uncertain; but it is probable that he did not, as we presume his mind must have found sufficient employment in his professional and philosophical pursuits, which have erected for him a monument of glory, that can perish only in the general wreck of taste and science among mankind. Independent of his merit as an architect, the discoveries achieved by him in astronomy, and in the other branches of natural philosophy, entitle him to rank among the great benefactors of the human race.\*

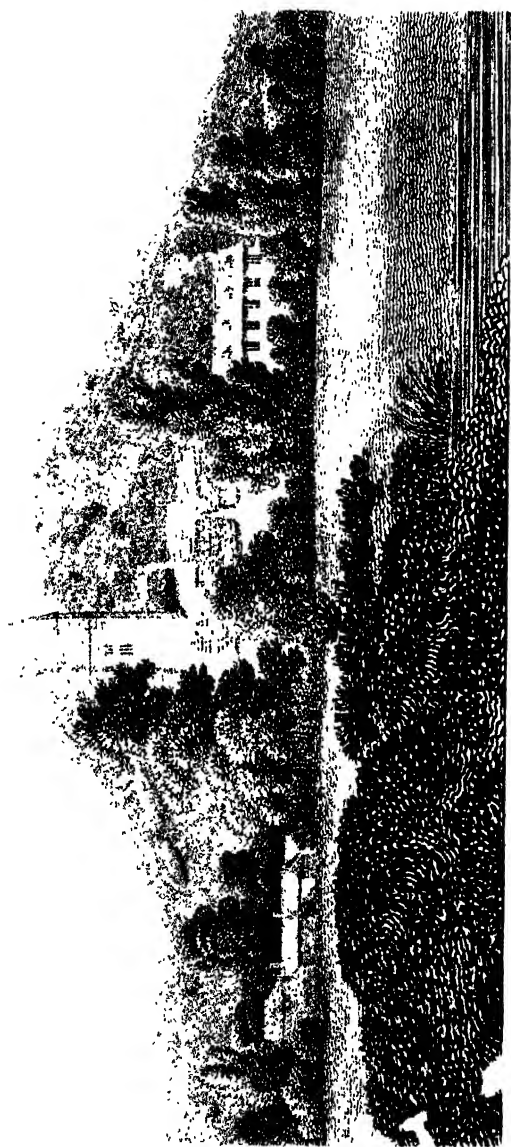
### MERE

is a small market-town and parish, situated in an angle of the county bordering on Somersetshire and Dorsetshire; and, from this circumstance, its name is supposed by some writers to have been derived. In the reign of Henry III. it was the lordship of Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, and had a castle belonging to it, which occupied the summit of an adjoining eminence. Very few traces of this fortress now remain; but the knoll on which it stood is still denominated Castle-hill, in memory of its ancient appropriation, as the site of a baronial mansion. The Prince of Wales, as Duke of Cornwall, is the present lord of the manor.

This town is said to have been formerly of considerable importance, and has undoubtedly possessed a market from a very remote  
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\* An account of his more important inventions and philosophical speculations, will be found in the "History of the Royal Society," by Thomas Sprat, Bishop of Rochester; in Ward's Lives of the Great Men of Great Britain; and in the "Parentalia."





mote period, though the privilege seems occasionally to have lain dormant. It is now, however, exercised on the Thursday of every week; and here are besides two large annual fairs. The chief support of Mere is its manufactory of English dowls and bed-ticking, which is principally carried on by the women, and gives employment to many persons in the neighbouring villages and hamlets.

The houses of this town are both indifferently built and ill arranged. In the centre stands a small cross, or market-house. The church, however, is the only building here worthy of notice; and this is a spacious edifice, with a handsome square tower attached to the west end. In this church was formerly "a chantry, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin," in which John, Lord Stoughton by his testament, dated August 8, 1484, ordered his body to be buried, "appointing that the whole revenue of all his lands purchased of Edyth Clayton, in this parish, should be employed for the maintenance of a priest to pray for his soul every day, and for the souls of his ancestors; as also to celebrate his obit yearly, with the obit of Katharine his wife, and all his ancestors."

The town and parish of Mere, according to the Parliamentary returns of 1811, contain 457 houses, and a population of 2211 persons. In 1801, the houses were estimated only at 181, and the inhabitants at 381 in number. This report must apply exclusively to the town.

FRANCIS LORD COTTINGTON, a celebrated statesman in the reign of Charles I. was born in, or near this town, but the precise date of his birth is uncertain, as well as the condition of his family. Having passed much of the early part of his life in Spain, under the charge of Sir Charles Corwallis, he obtained an accurate knowledge of the Spanish character and language, and is said to have greatly affected the garb and grave deportment of that nation. On his return to England he was constituted clerk of the peace; but soon went again to Spain, and continued there for four years. On being called to England, he was created a baronet, in recognition of his Majesty's approbation of his services. He

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was likewise appointed secretary to Prince Charles, but was restrained from further preferment by the declared enmity of the, favourite Buckingham.\* Soon after the death of that nobleman however, which happened about four years subsequent to the king's demise, Sir Francis was nominated Chancellor and Under Treasurer of the Exchequer. The following year he was sent as ambassador to Spain to negotiate a treaty of peace with that power; and being successful in his mission, was, at his return, created Baron of Hanworth, in Middlesex. He was next advanced to the offices of Lord Treasurer and Master of the Court of Wards, and held these distinguished stations till the breaking out of the grand rebellion, when he lost all, by his faithful adherence to the royal cause. In 1649 he once more went to Spain as joint ambassador with Sir Edward Hyde, afterwards Lord Clarendon and died at Valladolid about the year 1651, in the 77th year of his age, where he was interred with the honours due to his rank.†

Mr. FRANCIS POTTER, celebrated for his mechanical inventions and ingenious writings, was likewise a native of this town, and was born at the vicarage-house in 1591. After acquiring the rudiments of education at Worcester School, he became a member of Trinity College, Oxford, where he took his degrees in arts; and, entering into holy orders, succeeded his father in the rectory of Kilmington, in Devonshire. Here, according to the author of "*Magna Britannia*," he led a "single monkish life," chiefly engaged in his favourite pursuit, mechanics. Several valuable discoveries relative to the construction of hydraulic

\* The cause of this enmity was two-fold: first, the advice he gave King James against permitting the Prince of Wales to visit Spain, a journey which the Duke had set his mind upon; and, secondly, the honest boldness he displayed in asserting "the sincerity of the Spaniard in the treaty of marriage," which the Prince and Buckingham had broken off, on the pretence of the Spanish Court never intending to fulfil it.—Clarendon's, *History of the Rebellion*, Vol. I. p. 11. fol. edit.

† Granger's *Biographical History*, II. 110.—Birch's "*Lives of Illustrious Persons*."

hydraulic machines were made by this divine, and communicated at different times to the Royal Society, of which he was elected a member in testimony of his merits. The notion of curing diseases by the transfusion of blood from one individual to another is also generally attributed to Potter; but he seems merely to have suggested the opinion, and to have left it for the consideration and discussion of professional men. His chief literary work is intituled "An Interpretation of the Apocalyptic Number 666," in which he attempted to prove that it contained the perfect character of Antichrist's Government. This publication was highly commended by Mr. Mede, author of the "Interpretations of the Gospel," who speaks of it as "the happiest book that ever came into the world, and such as cannot be read but with admiration." Potter died at an advanced age, about the year 1678.\*

WHITESHEET-CAMP, so called from the hill on which it is placed, is situated to the north-west of Mere. This encampment is strongly fortified by nature on three sides; and on the fourth it is defended by three ditches and valla, terminating in one, on the sides most difficult of access. This area within the innermost vallum measures fifteen acres; and the circumference of the outward ditch is four furlongs and one hundred and fifty-two yards. All the entrances to the area of the intrenchment are on the level side. That through the exterior vallum, has some additional works. Sir Richard Hoare is of opinion that this encampment was originally a British work, with a single ditch; and supposes that the other two were added at a later period, and probably by the Saxons.†

VOL. XV.—September, 1813.

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STOUR.

\* See an account of Potter, with many curious anecdotes, by John Aubrey, his intimate friend, in Vol. II. of "Letters written by eminent Persons in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries." 8vo. 1843.

† Ancient Wiltshire, p. 43.

## STOURHEAD,

the seat of Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Bart. \* is about two miles west of Mere. This estate occupies the extreme verge of the county; and, from its peculiarity of boundary, is presumed to have been the property of a Saxon nobleman at the first formation of shires. In the time of Richard II. Stourton was the lordship and seat of John de Stourton, who was high-sheriff for the counties of Dorset and Somerset. A descendant of his, William de Stourton, was knight of the shire for this county in the reign of Henry V. His son and heir, John de Stourton, was knighted by Henry VI. for his gallant conduct in the wars with France. He was also returned sheriff of Wiltshire twice during this reign. In the 19th of Henry VI. he obtained a grant from the king, for "diverse deer leaps in his park at Stourton," as also for free-warren for all his demesne lands and woods there; and also for an annual fair. The same monarch created him Baron Stourton, of Stourton, in the 26th year of his reign. He died the 2d of Edward IV. and left Stourton, and other property, to his son and heir, William, second Lord Stourton. Among the descendants of this family, who continued lords of Stourton till the beginning of the eighteenth century, we find that William, fourth Lord Stourton, directed by his will, dated 1522, that his body should be interred in the chapel of the Virgin within the church of St. Peter at Stourton. His brother and heir, Edward, 27th of Henry VIII. also required to be buried in the north aisle of the parish church. This Lord was succeeded by a son named William.

\* To this gentleman the literary and antiquarian world is indebted for some very useful and interesting works; and as they are mostly of a topographical nature, they demand our notice here. They consist of a translation of the Tours, &c. of Giraldus Cambrensis, two vols. 8vo.; A Tour in Ireland, one vol. 8vo.; and Ancient Wiltshire, folio. In this appropriation of his leisure, and part of his fortune, Sir Richard must derive much rational pleasure: at the same time he is entitled to the thanks of every topographer and antiquary.

liam, who was twice married, and had a numerous family by his first wife. *Charles*, the eldest, inherited his title and the chief part of his property,\* and left them to his son, *John*, who dying without issue, was succeeded by his brother, *Edward*. *William*, his son, was the tenth Lord Stourton, and signalized himself by his firm adherence to the fortunes of the Stuart family. as did likewise his son, *Edward*, who died in his father's lifetime, leaving a son called *William*, afterwards eleventh Lord Stourton. This nobleman died in April, 1688, and left his title and property to *Edward*, his eldest son, who, in the reign of Queen Anne, sold the manor and estate of Stourton to Sir Thomas Meres, Knight; from whom, or from whose heirs, it was purchased in 1720, by Henry Hoare, Esq. an ancestor of the present possessor. He gave it the name of Stourhead, and soon after commenced a new mansion, from designs by Colin Campbell, architect,† Among various alterations that have been made to the house since its original erection, are two wings which were added in 1798. These are appropriated to a picture gallery and library; and, with the other apartments, contain a very valuable and choice collection of paintings, drawings, books, and curiosities. In the present work, it would occupy too much space to specify and describe all these: we can only point out a few of the most celebrated:

An Allegorical Piece, by Carlo Maratti, is considered a picture of great merit. It represents the Marquis Pallavicini, introduced by a genius to the painter, who is sitting with a canvas

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prepared

\* This Charles, seventh Lord Stourton, was the person, who, with the aid of his four sons, murdered Mr. Hargil and his son, with whom he had been long at variance, and buried their bodies fifteen feet deep in the earth. The orderers for some time escaped detection; but the whole occurrence being afterwards discovered, his Lordship suffered for his crime at Salisbury, March 5, 1357, having been hanged in a silken halter, on account of his quality. His body was interred in Salisbury Cathedral.—Vide Antq. p. 171.

† This gentleman has acquired some fame from building Wanstead House, in Essex; and by publishing "Virtutis Britannia."



prepared to paint his portrait. Three graces attend the artist; and above is an angel holding a crown of laurel over the head of the marquis. In the back ground are two figures, one of which, in armour, is relating the heroic actions of the marquis to the other who is recording them on a shield, in letters of gold.

Augustus and Cleopatra, an historical piece, by Raphael Mengs. The subject of this picture has been taken from the following spirited and eloquent passage in the Life of Mark Antony, by Plutarch.—“A few days after the death of Mark Antony, Cæsar made Cleopatra a visit of condolence. She was then in an undress, and lying negligently on a couch; but when the conqueror entered the apartment, though she had nothing on but a single robe, she arose hastily, and threw herself at his feet. Her hair dishevelled, her voice trembling, her eyes sunk: in short, her person gave you the image of her mind; yet in this deplorable condition there were some remains of that grace, that spirit and vivacity, which had so peculiarly animated her former charms; and still some gleams of her native elegance might be seen to wander over her melancholy countenance.”

Elisha restoring the Widow's Son, by Rembrandt. This picture was presented to the family by Bishop Atterbury. It is a dark, solemn, and powerful painting; but, in the opinion of Gilpin, “it wants a whole, and the prophet a character.”\*

The Rape of the Sabinæ, by Nicolo Poussin, is one of the painter's finest pieces. The muscular delineations of all the figures are admirable.

The Judgment of Hercules, by the same artist. This fine picture was engraved by Sir Robert Strange.

St. John the Baptist's Head in a Charger, by Carlo Dolci: a very beautiful painting.

A Holy Family, by Francis Bartolomeo da St. Marco. The pictures of this master are extremely scarce even in Italy. He was a friar in the convent of St. Mark at Florence, and contemporary with Raphael d'Urbino.

Diana

\* *Observations on the Western parts of England,” &c. 8vo. p. 119.*

Diana and her Nymphs, by Zuccharelli; a very pleasing picture, in a frame exquisitely carved by Gibbons.

A View of St. Mark's Palace at Venice, by Canaletti; also two smaller views in that city by the same painter.

A Landscape, with Figures, by Claude Lorraine. It has been engraved by Vivares.

Flight into Egypt, by Carlo Maratti. This picture is described by Bellori in his life of that artist.

A Moon Light, with Gypsies sitting round a Fire, by Rembrandt. This very curious and powerful picture has been engraved by Earlom. It has also been etched by the artist himself.

St. John in the Wilderness, a fine and spirited sketch on paper, by Titian. This appears to have been the first design, for the picture he painted in the church of Sancta Maria Maggiore at Venice; the only alteration regards the posture of St. John, who is represented sitting in the one, and standing in the other. The situation of the Lamb is precisely the same.

Mary Magdalen washing Our Saviour's Feet, another very fine sketch on paper, by Paul Veronese. \*This was the original design for his celebrated picture in the Durazzo Palace at Genoa.

A Holy Family, painted on vellum, by Leonardo da Vinci.

A Moon Light, by Vernet: also a Sun Rise, by that artist.

The Adoration of the Magi, by Ludovico Cardi, commonly called Cigoli. This picture was painted for the Albizzi family at Florence, and formed the altar-piece in the chapel belonging to that family in the church of Pietro Maggiore. It is inscribed with the painter's name and date, and is esteemed one of his finest productions.

The Meeting of Jacob and Esau, by Rota de Tivoli.

Gamesters, by Michael Angelo da Carravagio.

David and Goliath, by Francesco Mola.

A Madona and Child, by Guercino, in his finest manner.

A Landscape, with Peasants going to Market at Break of Day, an exquisite picture, by Gainsborough.

A Landscape, representing the Lake of Nemri, with figures of Diana and her Nymphs, by Wilson. The works and merits of this artist are at length duly appreciated and valued. Some of his pictures have lately sold for high prices.\*

Two Pictures, with horses, cattle, sheep, &c. by J. Ward, R. A. whose paintings of such subjects are certainly of first-rate merit.

A Landscape, with a group of figures, representing Diana and Acton, by A. W. Calcott, R. A. is a picture which greatly attracted much notice and commendation in the Royal Academy. It is, indeed, a most beautiful and interesting work of art.

Woman and Children in a Storm on Salisbury Plain, by H. Thomson, R. A.; also the Shipwrecked Sailor seated on a Rock, by the same artist. Both these are pictures of powerful effect; and are calculated to awaken strong sympathy in the spectator. In colouring, composition, and expression, they display singular skilfulness and taste. Another very powerful picture by the same artist from the story of the Red-Cross Knight, in Spencer's "Fairie Queene," is also a fine specimen of English art.

Drawings of Salisbury Cathedral, by Turner, besides numerous sketches and drawings by other living artists of this country: in patronizing whom the proprietor of Stourhead has at once evinced much good taste and liberality of sentiment.

The only other pictures we shall mention are seven very beautiful water-colour Drawings by Du Cros. The subjects are, Views of Tivoli; the Amphitheatre at Rome; the Grand Waterfall at Terni; and a View of Constantine's Arch at Rome.

The truth of colouring in these pictures is inimitable; accuracy and freedom are evinced in every touch of the pencil. This fidelity is to be attributed to the artist's constant practice of colouring his sketches from nature. Du Cros was a fine

\* See a Memoir of Wilson, in a work intitled "The Fine Arts of the English School." By John Britton, F. S. A. 4to. 1812.

ive of Switzerland, and first practised drawing for his amusement; but his success soon induced him to fix his residence at Rome, and become a professed artist. His drawings are numerous, and mostly on a large scale.

Among the portraits in the house are one of the late *William Cunnington*, F. S. A. and another of *Richard Fenton*, Esq. F. S. A. both by *Woodforde*, R. A. The first has been engraved for *Sir Richard's "Ancient Wiltshire,"* and the latter for *Mr. Fenton's "Historical Tour through Pembrokeshire"* 4to. Some account of *Mr. Cunnington* will be given in our subsequent notice of *Heytesbury*.

Among the curiosities with which this mansion abounds, those relating to our national antiquities, though not the most costly in appearance, are perhaps the most interesting.\*

One other curiosity, which may claim peculiar attention, is a Cabinet of most magnificent workmanship, which formerly belonged to *Pope Sixtus the Fifth*. It consists of several stories, constructed of ebony, agate, and lapis lazuli; the whole ornamented with solid gold and a profusion of every kind of precious stone, except diamond. In front are about twenty heads in wax, of the *Peretti* family, of which the pontiff above mentioned bore the name, with the portrait of his Holiness in the centre. Upon it is fixed a very curious and scarce medal of gold, struck during the reign of *Queen Elizabeth* to commemorate the defeat of the *Spanish Armada*. This cabinet was bequeathed by a nun (the last of the family of *Peretti*) to a convent in *Rome*, where it was purchased by *Mr. Henry Hoare*.

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\* The work, intitled "*History of Ancient Wiltshire*," which we have already had occasion frequently to mention, and which has supplied us with much information, is designed to afford the public a systematic view of the numerous and varied relics of ancient art in this county, furnished by an examination of various earth-works and of their contents. The first series, now in progress of publication, is therefore confined, as far as possible, to the illustration of the *British period*; but we understand it to be the intention of *Sir Richard* to continue his labours successively through the *Roman*, *Saxon*, *Danish*, and *Norman* eras. Should he carry this plan fully into execution, a most important step will be gained, in what may be denominated, the science of *British archaeology*.

The Pleasure-Grounds and Gardens of Stourhead have long been noted for their sylvan beauties and picturesque features. The natural scenery must have been always diversified and grand: it consists of ridges of hills, forming long extended terraces, and deep narrow vallies, with rivulets. The sides and summits of some of these eminences are now thickly clothed with woods. One of the vallies is filled with water by means of an artificial head, or dam; and throughout these woods and grounds are various walks, temples, and seats. One of the proprietors of Stourhead, indeed, thought it good taste to make the grounds as artificial as possible, and to croud them with temples, obelisks, and bridges. He absurdly adopted the fashions of Italy and France; either forgetting that our climate was dissimilar to that of a more southern hemisphere, or disregarded its effects. He therefore threw a Chinese bridge across the water; raised a temple of Apollo on one spot, a temple called the Pantheon, in another; whilst a third, dedicated to Flora, was placed on the bank of the lake in a different situation: and besides which there were grottos, caves, &c. Thus embellished and thus finished, we can easily fancy what would be the appearance and effect of such combinations. Instead of rural simplicity, and the chastened wildness which are now studied in "landscape gardening," every thing reminded the spectator, of art, of Italian skies, and of foreign associations. Though some of these objects are still retained at Stourhead, yet many have been removed; and instead of expelling nature from the place, or confining her in the fetters of formality, she is allowed to flaunt through the groves and parterres. Art, however, is retained to accompany her in the most frequented paths, and to regulate her movements, and restrain her within the boundaries of propriety and pleasantness.

"Throughout the various scenes above, below,

Lawns, walks, and slopes, with verdant carpets glow:—

On the clear mirror float the inverted shades

Of woods, plantations, wildernesses, glades,

Rock, bridges, temples, grottos, and cascades."

"A View of Stourhead Gardens," a poem.

The visitor of Stourhead gardens is conducted from the house through a close avenue of laurel hedges to the brow of a precipice, beneath which the village church and a few neat cottages, are seen in a deep dell, and beyond that another hill rises equally rapid, which is covered with a thick mass of woods. From this point a path winds through a plantation of firs, underwood, and forest trees, and conducts to a broad and beautiful lake.— This, though artificially formed, presents many features of a wild and diversified nature. In some places it is seen to run up into narrow creeks, and at other parts to spread its pellucid bosom to the “garish eye” of day. It is almost wholly surrounded with hanging woods, which, with two or three temples, are seen reflected on its transparent surface. After crossing a narrow arm of this lake, a winding path leads to the grotto, or cave, which is an arched passage under ground, and in this is a perpetual fountain and cold bath. Reclining in a dark recess is a white marble statue of a sleeping nymph, not very appositely placed; and the following lines, from the pen of Pope, are cut on a stone:

Nymph of the grot these sacred springs I keep,  
And to the murmur of these waters sleep;  
Ah! spare my slumbers, gently tread the cave,  
And drink in silence, or in silence lave.

In another part is a figure of a river god, with a vessel, pouring forth a perpetual stream. After emerging to day, the stranger's eye is soon attracted by the portico of a temple called the Pantheon, because built in imitation of a much noted temple of the same name in Rome. This contains an antique statue of Livia Augusta, in the character of Ceres; two modern figures of Flora, and of Hercules by Rysbrack; and two or three other specimens of art. From the front of this building the scene is singularly beautiful and impressive. In the centre of the lake is an island covered with wood; and beyond it is seen the temple of Flora, backed by lofty plantations, amidst which is an ancient stone cross,

cross, certainly the most interesting building in these grounds. Beyond this is seen the village church; and to the right is a steep hill, covered with woods, in the midst of which is the temple of the Sun. A circuitous path leads to all these objects, as well as to a fine cascade.

The *Stone Cross* is a curious and interesting relic of ancient art and of former times. It is not indigenous to the spot, and may be regarded as an unnaturalized foreigner; but though it does not harmonize with the surrounding objects and scenery, yet we are pleased to find it preserved and protected in any spot. This elegant and beautiful structure originally stood at the junction of four streets in Bristol, where it was known and characterized by the name of the High Cross. It appears to have been built about the year 1373 by voluntary contributions, on the site of an older cross, in honour of Edward III. who about that time constituted Bristol a town and county in itself. Statues of this monarch, and of his predecessors, King John, Henry III. and Edward I. who had likewise been benefactors to the city, were then placed in niches round the cross, which remained unaltered till the year 1633, when it was partly taken down, "enlarged, and raised higher in the same style of architecture, and four other statues of kings were added".\* These were of Henry VI. Elizabeth, Charles I. and James I. each of whom had renewed and confirmed the city charters. It was now, as Mr. Barrett observes, "most curiously painted, gilded, and enclosed with an iron pallisade, and surrounded with freestone steps, where all public proclamations were read to the people, and which served the market-people to sit round when the market was held in High-street. These improvements cost the Chamber 207l. and its height from the ground was thirty-nine feet six inches." In 1697 it was again painted and gilt in a very costly manner, and seems to have been regarded as an object of great beauty and curiosity. Notwithstanding this, however, it was taken down in 1733, on the petition of a silversmith, and thrown into the Guildhall,

\* Barrett's History of Bristol, p. 474.

Guildhall, where it lay for some years, but was at length re-erected in the centre of the College-Green. Here it stood till 1763, in which year it was once more levelled with the ground, and tossed into a secluded corner of the cathedral, whence it was, some time after, conveyed to Stourhead, Dean Barton having presented it to the late Mr. Hoare, with the consent of the magistrates and council. The expense of removing and re-building it was estimated at upwards of three hundred pounds, including the base, top, and central pier, which were additions made to it by the direction of Mr. Hoare.\*

At the source of the river Stour, in these grounds, is another pile of building called *Peter's Pump*, which was also brought from Bristol. It consists of four piers, with as many arches; and in the upper part are four statues in niches.

Within the grounds of Stourhead is an *encampment* nearly circular in its form, and consisting of a double ditch and vallum, with entrances towards the east and west. It occupies the entire ridge of a hill, and derives much additional strength from the difficult and precipitous nature of the ground on all its sides. The area within the outer ditch comprises seven acres in extent: and its circuit is three furlongs, twenty yards. The greatest height of the vallum on the scarp side is twenty-seven feet†. Near this entrenchment are the six springs, or wells, whence the Stour derives its origin, and whence the Stourton family take their armorial bearings. These springs are thus noticed by Leland in his Itinerary, (Vol. VII. fol. 78,) "The ryver of Stoure risith ther of six fountaines, or springes, whereof three lie on the northe side of the parke harde withyn the pale; the other three lie north also, but withoute the parke. The Lord Stourton givith these six fountaynes upon his arms."

From

\* A view and account of this cross are given in Britton's *Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain*, whence the above notices of it were extracted.

† Another camp exactly similar in construction to that above noticed is also placed on the ridge of an eminence in that part of the grounds called New Park Terrace. *Ancient Wiltshire*, Vol. I. p. 39.



From the immediate vicinity of these springs a fine verdant terrace leads westward to the summit of a considerable eminence, called *Kingsettle*, over which passes the "Hardway," the British road by which King Alfred is supposed to have advanced to the attack of the Danes at Eddington, from his fastnesses in the forest of Selwood. On this hill stands a lofty Tower, built in honour of that illustrious monarch by Henry Hoare, Esq. grandfather to the present proprietor of Stourhead. It is of a triangular form, with round towers at each corner, and rises to the height of one hundred and sixty feet. A flight of two hundred and twenty-two steps ascends to the top, which commands a most extensive and richly diversified prospect in every direction. Over the entrance is a statue of the Saxon prince, with a tablet underneath bearing the following inscription:

"Alfred the Great, A. D. 879, on this summit erected his standard against Danish invaders. To him we owe the origin of juries, and the creation of a naval force. Alfred, the Light of a benighted age, was a philosopher and a Christian, the father of his people, and the founder of the English monarchy and liberties."

Westward from the tower is an immense tumulus, vulgarly denominated "Jack's Castle." This mound was long regarded as one of those beacons, where, in ancient times fires were lighted to give warning of the approach of an enemy. Sir Richard Hoare, however, on opening it found it contained an interment of bones, very minutely burnt, with a small lance head of brass, and an axe made of Sienite stone. The latter was in a very perfect state, and appeared to have been formed with great skill.

STOURTON VILLAGE, adjoining Stourhead, is seated in a low dingle, or dell. The fronts of most of the houses here are embellished with roses, jessamines, and various sorts of climatis, which produce a very rural and agreeable effect. The parish church is a small and neat building, in the pointed style of the fourteenth century, with a square embattled tower at the west end,

end, supported by angular buttresses. It is not, however, otherwise remarkable, except as containing some monumental memorials of the Stourton family, and also of some ancestors of the present possessor of Stourhead. A large altar-tomb of stone supports two statues of a man and woman, and attached to it are three small effigies in marching attitudes. There is no inscription; but, by initial letters on two shields, it appears to have been raised to the memory of *Edward, Lord Stourton*, already named p. 275. A large slab, near the pulpit, commemorates "The Honourable *Thomas Stourton, Esq.*" who died in 1669. Another slab is inscribed to the memory of "*John Stourton, Baron de Stourton*," who died A. D. 1587.

An architectural monument with a bust of the deceased, commemorates *Henry Hoare, Esq.* son of Sir Richard Hoare, Knight, sometime Lord Mayor of London, who was president of Christ's Hospital, and member of Parliament for the city of London. He gave 2000*l.* for erecting and endowing schools and work-houses besides other sums; and died March 12, 1724, in the 48th year of his age.

In the chancel is a large mural monument to the memory of *Henry Hoare, Esq.* who died September 1785. It is inscribed with the following beautiful and spirited lines from the pen of Hayley:

"Ye who have view'd in pleasure's choicest hour  
The earth embellish'd on these banks of Stour;  
With grateful reverence, to this marble lean,  
Rais'd to the friendly founder of the scene.  
Here with pure love of smiling nature warm'd,  
This far-famed demy paradise he form'd;  
And happier still, here learn'd from heaven to find  
A sweeter Eden in a bounteous mind  
Thankful these fair and flowery paths he trod;  
And priz'd them only as they led to God."

On an eminence, about half a mile from Stourton Church, is an old farm-house, named "Bonhomes," which, according to Leland, was "buildd of late by my Lord Stourton;" but belonged to Mr. Bonhome, of Wiltshire. Hence, perhaps, has originated the tradition that it was a house of the religious fraternity of Bonhommes, of whom, according to Tanner, there were only two establishments in England.

At the south-western extremity of Stourton parish, and partly in Somersetshire, is a wild, boggy tract of country, one portion of which displays numerous hollows, or excavations, which are popularly called

PEN PITTS. The peculiarity and number of these hollows have excited the astonishment of all persons who have examined them: and they are certainly calculated to perplex both the naturalist and the antiquary. If formed by nature, they constitute an unique phenomenon, and if excavated by art, they may be regarded among the most curious remains of antiquity. Several thousand holes, of various forms and dimensions extend over a surface of nearly 700 acres of ground. They are found on the brows and slopes of two hills, between which is a narrow valley. On a bold knoll, projecting into this valley, are traces and banks of an ancient encampment.

These pits resemble, in their form, an inverted cone, and are of unequal dimensions. In some instances they appear double, or only divided by a very slight partition of earth, and the soil in which they are dug is of so dry a nature that no water has ever been known to stagnate in them. Different opinions have been advanced by antiquaries respecting the origin of these curious excavations, and the use to which they were appropriated. Some have supposed them to be hollows whence the ancient Britons quarried the querns, or millstones with which they bruised their corn; and others that they were permanent habitations, or places of refuge in the time of danger. It is not probable however that such an extensive tract of country should have been excavated for the

sole purpose of procuring stone of any kind; neither is it easy to conceive how such pits could serve as places of security against an enemy; as there are no considerable fortifications to defend them. The most likely supposition, therefore, is that they were permanent habitations. The custom of living under ground is of very high antiquity, and is still practised by the inhabitants of Kamskatcha, and of other countries. At the south-eastern extremity of the pits is a hill, or ridge, still retaining the name of *High Street*.\*

According to the Saxon Chronicle several battles were fought in this vicinity, between the Britons and the Saxons, and between the latter and the Danes. In the year 658 "Cenwallus," king of Wessex, defeated the Britons here, and drove them to Petherton on the river Parret. In 1001 another bloody battle took place almost on the same ground, in which the Danes overthrew the Saxons under Cola and Eadsig; and afterwards burned the village of Pen. The third and last action happened in 1016, when King Edmund defeated the Danes, though commanded by their celebrated general and king, Canute. This battle is conjectured to be commemorated in the ancient door-way of the parish church of Pen, where two crowned heads have been placed as supporters to an arch.

MAIDEN BRADLEY is a considerable village, situated on the road between Stourhead and Longleat. According to Camden it derived its name from one of the daughters of a famous man, called Manasser Bisset, "who, being herself infected with the leprosy,

\* It is correctly observed by the antiquary above named, that "wherever we find the word *street* (except in great towns, and their immediate neighbourhood) we may expect to meet with some traces of Roman or British antiquities. This word as well as *ystrad*, Welsh; the Latin *stratum*, and the Saxon *streat*, are all derived from the Celtic root, *stretal*; and our High Street might have formerly been the approach to the British settlement at Pen." *Ancient Wiltshire*, Vol. I. p. 57.

leprosy, founded here a house for leprous maidens, and endowed it with her estate, as her father had before founded a priory here."\* This story, however, is regarded as fabulous by Gough, and by Tanner, who identify the nunnery and priory, to have been the same foundation, and ascribe its erection and endowment to Manasser Bisset himself, in the reign of Henry II. The peculiar object of the institution was the support and maintenance of poor leprous women; but to them were likewise added some secular brethren, whose duty it was to provide necessaries, and manage their estates for them. Hubert, Bishop of Sarum, about the year 1190, removed these priests, and substituted in their stead a prior and canons of the Augustine order. At the Dissolution this hospital, Dugdale says, possessed an annual revenue of 180l. 10s. 8d.; but Speed mounts it as high as 197l. 18s. 8d. Henry the Eighth granted the site and the buildings to Edward Seymour, Viscount Beauchamp, and the property has continued in the same family to the present time. Part of the monastic buildings are incorporated in a farm-house at the north eastern extremity of the village †.

*Bradley House*, a seat of the Duke of Somerset ‡, still constitutes the chief ornament of this village. It is a plain stone structure, and consists of a centre and two wings, which project from the body at right angles. In front of the house is a small park, at the southern extremity of which is a lofty chalk hill.

The parish church, consisting of a nave, two aisles, a chancel, and a tower, adjoins the house, and contains some monuments in honour of the Seymours. One to Sir *Edward Seymour* especially

\* See a very interesting and learned Essay on *Leprosy*, by Dr. Bateman, in Rees's Cyclopædia, Vol. XX.

† Tanner's Notiz. Wiltshire. Leland's Collectanea, Vol. I, p. 84—5. 8vo. 1774.

‡ This nobleman has recently purchased Balstrode, in Buckinghamshire, late the property of the Duke of Portland.

cially deserves notice, both on account of its execution, and the celebrity of the person it commemorates. It is constructed of marble, and displays a statue of the deceased, in his robes as a senator, placed in a reclining posture. On the pediment are two winged figures, meant for cherubs, one of which holds an inverted torch as an emblem of death, while the other grasps a serpent as an emblem of immortality. The monument was raised in 1750, by the baronets' grandson.

A long inscription on this tomb narrates many events in the life of the deceased, and panegerizes his virtues and merits. It states that Sir Edward Seymour, Bart. was late of Berry Pomerooy, in the county of Devon, and of Maiden Bradley, Wiltshire; that he was a man of rare endowments, was born in 1633, and died in 1707. His political conduct, during the reigns of Charles II. William and Anne, though tinged in too great a measure with the principles of Toryism, justly obtained for him a high degree of estimation among all parties. His whole career was consistent with the sentiments he avowed at its commencement; nor was he ever known to sacrifice his principles for the sake of court favour, place, or pension. Such characters are so rare in the political world, that when found they excite our admiration and praise.

*Edmund Ludlow*, Lieutenant General in the service of the Parliament during the era of the commonwealth, was a native of the village of HILL-DLVERILL, or its neighbourhood, where his father, Sir Henry Ludlow resided. He was born about 1615, and had early instilled into his mind those principles of opposition to arbitrary government upon which he acted with so much vigour at a more advanced age. At the commencement of hostilities between the king and the Parliament he enlisted himself under the banners of the latter, and by his zeal and activity soon distinguished himself so highly, that he was appointed a colonel in their service. Being present at the siege of Wardour-Castle, the government of it, after its surrender, was confided to his charge. His conduct in this capacity at once proved his

skill and intrepidity, and brought him into great repute with the republican party. Indeed such was the confidence reposed in him by the Parliament, that he was selected to be one of the twelve commissioners who were destined to sit in judgment on the unhappy Charles, and to sign the warrant for his execution. After this he went to Ireland as commander of the Parliamentary forces in that kingdom; and on the death of Ireton became Lord Deputy. In the time of the protectorate he held the rank of Major General in the army; but not approving of the usurpation of Cromwell, he was suffered to remain in comparative obscurity. When Richard Cromwell, however, assumed the government, he obtained a seat in the new Parliament, and was again nominated commander of the troops in Ireland. But he had scarcely entered upon the duties of his station before he found it prudent to abandon the country, foreseeing the certainty of the king's restoration; and dreading the consequences of that event to all those who had any immediate concern in the condemnation and execution of the late king. His place of retirement was Zurich, in Switzerland, where he remained in private till the revolution in 1688, when he repaired, with other deputies, to London, to offer King William to raise men for his service. His further progress, however, in this measure was quickly arrested by the loyalty of Sir Edward Seymour, who moved a resolution in the House of Commons, that they should address his majesty to bring Ludlow to trial as a regicide; which he no sooner heard of than he again went to Switzerland. His death happened at Vivay, in the year 1693; and his remains were interred in the church of that town, under a monument erected to his memory by his widow.

General Ludlow appears to have been a man of literature as well as a soldier and a statesman. During his exile he wrote memoirs of his own life, which were first published in 1698, at Vivay, and have since passed through several editions. In 1691 and 1692, he published "*Three Tracts*" at Amsterdam, under the form of *Letters of General Ludlow to Sir Edward Seymour and*  
other

other persons; comparing the oppressive government of King Charles I. in the first four years of his reign, with that of the first four years of the reign of King James II. and vindicating the conduct of the Parliament that began in Nov. 1640. A new edition of these letters have been recently published in 4to. with a preface by Baron Maseres.

To the eastward of Maiden-Bradley rises the lofty insulated hill, which is known by the three different appellations of *Cold Kitchen-Hill*, *Brimsdon*, and *Bidcombe*. This hill displays many relics of British antiquities: such as tumuli, ditches, and excavations: and is besides one of the most interesting eminences in Wiltshire, on account of the vast extent and beauty of the prospects it commands. In addition to the rich beauties of Somersetshire, and the plains of Wiltshire, which are seen from its summit, Bidcombe-Hill overlooks some of the Dorsetshire hills, including Shaftesbury and the adjacent country. Nay, so distinguished is this eminence for its height and grandeur, that we are told by Mr. Coxe, in his *Tour through Monmouthshire*, that the sugar-loaf mountain near Abergavenny, (a distance of fifty miles) is seen from it. From these circumstances the Rev. Francis Skurray, of Horningsham, deemed it a subject worthy to exercise his poetical genius, and in consequence produced "*A Rural and Descriptive Poem*," deriving its title from it, in imitation of the "*Cooper's Hill*," of Denham. The merit of this effusion certainly places its author far above mediocrity among the votaries of Parnassus; but we cannot, as topographers, refrain from regretting that the description of the natural scenery is not more copious. The hill itself, and the principal surrounding objects, we apprehend, should have been delineated with sufficient fulness to mark the characteristic features of each. To mention these in a cursory manner, and to dwell at length on the historical events connected with them, or the incidental reflections they might suggest, appear to us to be an inversion of what ought to constitute the plan of a "*local poem*." Johnson defines local poetry to be that species "of which the



fundamental subject is some particular landscape, to be poetically described, with the addition of such embellishments as may be supplied by historical retrospection, or incidental meditation." The suggestions of the latter, however, are to be admitted as "embellishments" only. Like the ornaments of a web they ought to be interwoven with it, and even form its most striking passages; but care should be taken not to cover the piece so closely as apparently to alter the original design. That the poem in question, however, though in itself a production of considerable merit, partakes of this fatality, must be evident to every reader. It thus commences:

"To yonder hill whose sides are fringed with wood,  
To Bidcombe's airy steep, and shady bowers  
I bend my frequent steps, where the keen breeze  
Plays its shrill music to my ravish'd ear;  
And varying prospects brighten as they change.  
Hail! heaven-inspiring solitudes, ye spread  
An awful calm, diffusing peace. The soul  
By sympathy imprest, foregoes the world,  
And wrapt in meditation mounts to God."  
"Amid the silence of this wild retreat  
No busy din astounds to interrupt  
The soul's ascent to him, who nature fram'd.  
Scarce any sound is heard save mingled notes  
Of woodland choristers, or from the vale  
(Where hearts are link'd in Hymeneal bands)  
The merry chiming of the village bells."

MONKTON-DEVERILL, \* a small village on the eastern side of Bidcombe-Hill, is supposed to have derived the first part of its appellation from its having belonged in ancient times, to some monastic institution; but record is entirely silent on the subject. At a later period it has acquired celebrity on account of its clergyman *Mr. John White*, who being ejected from his livings by

\* In Longbridge-Deverill Church are several monuments for the Thynne

by Cromwell's commissioners, practiced medicine for several years in this county, and wrote some volumes of poems, which were much esteemed at the time of their publication. He died at Chertton, December 6, 1671.\*

### LONGLEAT,

The magnificent seat of the Marquis of Bath, is situated on the immediate confines of this county with Somersetshire, at the distance of four miles and a half from the town of Warminster. The old house, which was burnt to the ground a few years before the erection of the present edifice, was originally part of a priory, founded by Sir John Vernory, Lord of Horningsham, for monks of the order of St. Augustine. This monastery having been allowed to fall into a ruinous condition by the neglect and mismanagement of the prior, it was annexed as a cell to the Carthusian priory of Hinton, in the 29th year of the reign of Henry VIII. Scarcely had one year elapsed, however, before it was surrendered to the king, who granted its site and the lands attached to it to Sir John Horsey, of Clifton, in Dorsetshire, and to Edward, Earl of Hertford, from whom the whole was purchased a few months afterwards by Sir John Thynne, an ancestor to the present noble proprietor.

For twenty-five years subsequent to this transfer little attention seems to have been paid to Longleat by its new possessor. Sir John, busily engaged in public and martial affairs, had no leisure, nor perhaps inclination, to direct or superintend improvements in his private estate. As old age approached, however, the alarms of war, and the intrigues of courts lost their relish; and he at length determined to free himself from both, and devote the remainder of his life to peace and retirement. Accordingly, in order, as he thought, the more effectually to secure this object he

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laid

\* There are no less than five villages and hamlets called *Darrell*, from a small rivulet so named on account of its diving under ground here. This stream forms one of the sources of the Wey. Vide ante p. 14.

laid the foundation of the superb mansion, which still continues the proudest architectural ornament of this part of Wiltshire; but only lived to finish the shell and a small portion of the interior \*. The remainder was completed by his son, and by his grandson; the latter of whom was created Lord Weymouth by King Charles II. This nobleman likewise furnished the house in a most splendid manner; and when the Dutch taste for gardening was introduced, on the accession of William and Mary, he ornamented the grounds with chequered gardens, canals, fountains, vistas, avenues, &c. in a style which rendered them equal, if not superior, in magnificence to those of any seat in England. His lordship dying, however, in 1714, while his nephew and heir, the second lord, was yet an infant, and he residing a very short time at Longleat, the gardens and grounds were much neglected in his life-time, as well as during the minority of his son, the third lord, who was afterwards raised to the dignity of Marquis of Bath. As soon, however, as the latter had attained the years of maturity he began to new-model the inclosures, by the advice of the celebrated Brown. The plan laid down by that gentleman his lordship unremittingly pursued till the period of his death, which happened in 1796; and it has since been generally observed by his successor, the present dignified nobleman †.

The

\* Gilpin in his "Observations on the Western Parts of England," and some other writers, assert that this fabric was the workmanship of John of Padua, an Italian architect, who built Old Somerset House, in the Strand. This statement may be correct as far as regards the plan of the house, but it appears from the account-books relative to the building, and still preserved at Longleat, that Sir John was his own acting architect. The foundation was laid in January 1567, and the buildings were regularly prosecuted for twelve years, during which time the sum of 8016*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* was expended on the works. This money appears to have been paid for workmanship chiefly; as timber, stone, and carriage were provided by the proprietor.

† The Thynne family, originally called Botevile, are descended from Sir Geoffrey Botevile, who, with his brother Oliver came to England from Poitou, in the reign of King John, to aid that monarch against his rebellious

The situation of Longleat is peculiarly fine and picturesque. An extensive park surrounds the mansion, and both the natural features, and artificial embellishments are bold, grand, and diversified. The house appears seated in a broad and luxuriant valley, in the bosom of which is a large sheet of water. On the eastern side of the house, the grounds rise into bold hills, which are thickly covered with forest trees; and in various parts of the park, are other groves and masses of woods. Both nature and art have co-operated to render this place highly important and interesting. In approaching the house from the Warminster road, nearly the whole scenery and features of the domain are gradually unfolded to the spectator; whilst the other entrances, from the south, and from the north-west, are through a level tract of country. The approach from the south is truly in unison with the style and character of the house; being a straight road of almost a mile in length, skirted on each side by lofty old trees \*. At one end of this avenue is the lodge, on an eminence, and at the other is the principal front of the mansion. The whole domain, within the plantations, is estimated at about fifteen miles in circumference.

The house of Longleat is built on a scale of magnificence proportionate to the extent and grandeur of the park in which it is seated.

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lions barons. This knight settled at Stretton, in Shropshire, on lands given to him by William D'Albini, Earl of Arundel. Here his family continued to reside till the period of the purchase of Longleat by Sir John Thynne, the elder, as already mentioned. The surname Thynne originated in the reign of Edward IV. with John Boteville, then proprietor of Stretton, who was commonly called "John of Th'Inne," from his residence in one of the inns of court. William Thynne, alias Boteville, grandson to this John, was master of the household to Henry VIII. and was esteemed one of the most learned and ingenious men of his age. He collected together all the ancient copies of Chaucer, corrected and amended them with great care, and edited a new folio edition of his works, with notes, in the year 1542. Collins's Peerage of England. Edit. 1812. by Sir Egerton Brydges. K. I. Vol. II. p. 496.

\* Among the woods in this park, was first naturalized the Weymouth pine, which Gilpin characterizes "as the most formal of its brotherhood."

seated. It stands in an open lawn close to a branch of the river Frome, which winds through the vale, and adds much to the beauty of its scenery. The architecture of this mansion is the mixed style which prevailed at the end of the sixteenth century; but it partakes far more of the Roman than of the pointed, or English character. The form of the structure is a parallelogram two hundred and twenty feet in length by one hundred and eighty feet in depth; it is built entirely of freestone, and is adorned with pilasters of the Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian orders, with enriched capitals, friezes, entablatures, parapets, and cornices. In the centre are two quadrangular courts; and externally it presents four principal fronts, each of which is surmounted by a handsome balustrade; and on the south and east sides are colossal stone statues, which combined with the varied turrets, and columnar chimnies, present a diversified and very picturesque appearance. Each front, or elevation of the building, is divided into three stories in height, and into different portions in width by square projections. On the south side is the principal entrance, and on the east is a handsome architectural entrance from the flower garden, whilst the north also communicates with another flower garden, surrounded by conservatories, green-houses, and other offices. The interior of this priorly mansion corresponds with its exterior in character and effect. Every thing is vast, and every part is grand. A lofty and spacious hall, libraries, dining-room, drawing-rooms, bed-rooms, chapel, staircase, and gallery, with two open courts, constitute the ground-floor. Nearly the whole of these apartments, and several other parts of the house, with all the out-offices, have been formed, erected, and arranged by Jeffrey Wyatt, Esq. architect, within the last ten years; and it is but justice to remark, that in designing and executing these alterations, he has manifested much taste and professional talent. Well acquainted with the style of architecture, in which Longleat house was originally erected, Mr. Wyatt has judiciously adhered to the same style in all his additional works. Hence, when the whole is completed, it will present

present an uniform and consistent edifice: and we do not hesitate to assert, that for grandeur of effect, commodiousness of arrangement, and adaptation for a splendid nobleman's establishment, it will equal any mansion in Great Britain. We could gladly enter into a more minute description, but are restrained by the limits of the present work.

On the right hand of the southern entrance is a lofty and noble Hall, with a carved ceiling, and a music-gallery at one end. Branching from it is a large library, stored with a choice and ample collection of books, among which are some highly curious and interesting manuscripts and printed volumes. Numerous portraits, and other pictures are also preserved in different rooms; some of which claim our notice from the celebrity of the personages represented.

*Sir John Thynne*, the founder of Longcat, in the fifty-first year of his age; also his eldest son and heir of the same name, who died in 1603.

*Thomas Thynne, Esq.* commonly called *Tom of Ten Tjousand*, on account of the generosity of his disposition, and the splendid style of his living. This gentleman was betrothed to Elizabeth, Countess of Ogle; from which circumstance he excited the envy and hatred of Count Coningsmark, who engaged assassins to murder him in his carriage, on the 12th of February, 1652-3. A dilapidated monument in Westminster Abbey commemorates his name, and the above event.

*Thomas Lord Corbentry*, Lord Keeper, who died the 11th of January, 1639-40, after having held the seals for sixteen years. Lord Clarendon says he was a man of consummate abilities, and great knowledge of the laws and constitution of his country, to which circumstances, indeed, he owed his elevation to the high office of Lord Keeper.

*Sir William Corbentry* youngest son of the Lord Keeper, whom Bishop Burnet characterizes as the best speaker of his time in the House of Commons.

~ *Henry Corbentry*, elder brother to Sir William, a strenuous  
loyalist,

loyalist, and sometime principal secretary of state in the reign of Charles II.

*Edward Seymour*, Duke of Somerset, who was protector, Lord High Treasurer, and Earl Marshal, during the minority of Edward VI. The political career and unfortunate fate of this nobleman are well known to every reader of history. He was beheaded in January 1551-2. His portrait is said to be a very good likeness, and either an original by Holbein, or a copy from an original by that artist. It has been engraven by Houbraken, for Birch's *Lives of Illustrious Persons*.

*Thomas Lord Seymour*, of Sudley, brother to the Protector, and Lord High Admiral of England, whose uncontrollable ambition and pride brought him to the block, March 10, 1549. He was younger brother to the Protector, and married the Dowager Queen Catharine Parr, and afterwards paid particular attention to the Princess Elizabeth. Warton, in his "Life of Sir Thomas Pope," has given a curious account of some coquetties which were practised between this princess and the Lord Admiral.\*

*Lord Chancellor Thurlow*; a very grand and highly finished half-length portrait, by Sir Joshua Reynolds. In the representation of personal features and character, and in the composition, colouring, and expression of a portrait, Sir Joshua was unrivalled.

*Lord Chancellor Bacon*; whose discoveries paved the way to the present enlightened condition of human science.

*Dr. William Juxon*, Bishop of London, who attended Charles I. in his last moments. He was the friend of Archbishop Laud, and was particularly noted for mildness of temper, gentleness of manners, and integrity of conduct. "This worthy man," says Granger, "who never sought preferment, was promoted to the highest dignity in the church upon the restoration of Charles II. Ob. 4 June, 1663, *Ætat* 81." *Biographical History*, II. 154. A print has been engraven from this picture.

*Frances, Duchess of Richmond*, and *Lennox*, daughter to  
Thomas

\* See a singular correspondence respecting Lord Seymour, in the *Monthly Magazine* for Oct. 1813.

Thomas Lord Howard of Bindon. This lady was thrice married, first to Prannel, the son of a vintner in London; secondly to Edward, Earl of Hertford; and lastly, to Ludowich, Duke of Richmond, whom it is supposed she poisoned. She is represented in deep mourning, with a miniature of the Duke, pendant on her breast.

*Edward Stafford, Duke of Buckingham*, son of Henry Stafford who was beheaded at Salisbury for conspiring against Richard III. This nobleman having been restored to his father's honours and estate, afterwards became the distinguished favourite of Henry VIII. Wolsey, however, eyed him with great jealousy, and in order to rid himself of so powerful a rival, had him brought to trial for uttering some treasonable expressions against the king. Being condemned, he was almost immediately executed. Buckingham was the last person who held the office of Constable of England.

*Sir Thomas Overbury*. This gentleman was the intimate friend and confidential adviser of Robert Carr, Earl of Somerset, (one of the favourites of James I.) Wishing to dictate to this nobleman in his marriage with the Countess of Essex, he incurred the hatred of his friend, and also of the lady; both of whom contrived to have him imprisoned in the Tower, and afterwards murdered by poison in 1613. His poem, called "The Wife," portrays a good and amiable woman, very inapplicable to the character of the countess, for whom it is said to have been designed. This poem, with other essays, called characters, passed through sixteen editions previous to the year 1638.

*Sir John Coventry*, grandson of Thomas, first Earl of Coventry, who was greatly distinguished for wit; and being frequently in opposition to the measures of the court, nearly fell a sacrifice to the revengeful spirit of his opponents. Having indulged his fancy in the discussion of a question regarding the taxation of playhouses, his speech was considered as a personal insult to the king. In consequence of this four armed ruffians were hired to waylay and dispatch him; but he defended himself



with such courage and skill, that they only succeeded in mutilating his nose. This barbarous attack was loudly resented by the House of Commons, who passed a bill of banishment against the perpetrators, with special clauses declaring that it should not be in the king's power to pardon them. The same act rendered maiming a capital crime. A slight engraving has been made from this picture.

*Sir Thomas Gresham*, the founder of the Royal Exchange in London, and also of the college which still bears his name. See *Brayley's Account of London*. Vol. I. p. 340.

*Sir Orlando Bridgeman*, successor to the great Lord Chandon, in the office of Lord Keeper. Though a man of ability, he appears to have been timid and irresolute. He was removed from office in 1672, and the seals presented to

*Anthony-Ashley-Cooper, Earl of Shaftesbury*, a man of undoubted talents, but inconsistent and mutable in his conduct and principles. His two schemes for establishing peace between Charles I. and the Parliament are well known. Having reason to fear the intentions of the court party, he quitted the service of the king, and attached himself to the Parliament, by whom he was employed in different official trusts. He likewise held several offices under Cromwell, and is said to have boasted that the Protector would have made him king. After the restoration he gave his support to the court party, and received the seals in 1672; but was deprived of them the year following. In 1677 he was committed to the Tower, but recovering the favour of Charles he was again admitted to the cabinet in 1679, and was expelled from it the same year. In 1683, he retired to Holland, and soon afterwards died at Amsterdam.

*Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk*, husband of Mary, relict of Lewis of France, and sister to Henry VIII.

*Viscount Graham Dundee*, the firm adherent of James II. and one of the most vigorous opponents of William III. He fell in the battle at the Pass of Killcrankie, where he defeated King William's forces with considerable slaughter.

*Lucius Carey, Lord Viscount Falkland*; one of the most accomplished and enlightened men of his age, who was killed when fighting in the Royal cause at the battle of Newbury, in 1643. He was one of those few who was at once a patriot and a loyalist; an enemy alike to oppression and rebellion. This is a very fine and justly celebrated picture.

*Sir Philip Sydney*, the well known author of *Arcadia*, and the great ornament of Queen Elizabeth's court.

*Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester*, one of the favourites of that princess. This is a very curious picture. The Earl is represented as attended by a page apparently a dwarf, an usual appendage to greatness in the 16th century.

*Bishop Kenn*, one of the seven bishops who refused their assent to the declaration of indulgence, proposed by James II.; but who, notwithstanding, rather chose to relinquish his bishopric of Bath and Wells than forfeit his oath of allegiance to that monarch, by declaring for his successor, William III. On this event he retired to Longleat, where he died, March 19, 1710-11, deeply regretted by his noble friend, Lord Weymouth. This is considered a better portrait of him than those engraved.

*John Fisher Bishop of Winchester*, and a cardinal. This prelate died a martyr to conscience, in the reign of Henry VIII.

*Lady Arabella Stuart*, daughter of Charles Stuart, Earl of Lennox, and younger brother to Lord Darnley, father to James I. The life of this lady exhibited a tissue of unmerited misfortune. She died insane, September 27, 1615, while a prisoner in the Tower of London.

*Wentworth, Earl of Strafford*, the friend and favourite of Charles I. by whom he was afterwards sacrificed, in the vain hope of conciliating his people, and averting the storm which threatened his crown and life.

A picture here, representing a family, by Lucas de Veece, is thus described by Walpole, in his *Anecdotes of Painting*.—"The figures are less than life, and about half length. An elderly gentleman

gentleman is at a table with his wife, and another lady, probably, from the resemblance, her sister. The first lady has tags of a particular form, exactly like those on the dress of my Duchess of Suffolk, as is the colouring, though not so highly finished; yet the heads have great nature. Before them are seven young children, their ages marked, which shew that three of them were born at a birth. They are playing with fruit; and by them are a parrot and a monkey; but the animals and fruits are much inferior to the figures. There are some Latin verses in commemoration of the gentleman, whose name or title was Cobham—I suppose Sir George Brooke, Lord Cobham, who died in the first year of Queen Elizabeth, leaving eight sons and two daughters. He had been committed to the Tower by Queen Mary, as privy to Wyatt's rebellion."

Another piece represents *Sir Thomas Thynne*, grandson to the founder of Longleat, with his two wives, Maria, daughter of George Lord Audley, and Catherine, daughter of Charles, brother to Viscount Bindon. Sir Thomas appears dressed in pink stockings, and in the fashion of the times. Both the ladies are likewise habited according to the costume of the age; and the latter is painted pregnant, in allusion to the circumstance of her death having been occasioned by child birth.

About one mile south-east of Longleat is the village of HORNINGHAM, in which resided, for many years, the late THOMAS DAVIS, Esq. This gentleman was steward to the last, and to the present Marquis of Bath; and, during his stewardship, not only exerted himself with great activity and zeal in discharging the duties of his trust, but also published some essays on agriculture, and other subjects. Mr. Davis was a native of Perton in Hampshire, and was early placed at a public school at Devizes, whence he removed to Longleat, as an assistant to Mr. Cole, the Marquis of Bath's steward. This gentleman he succeeded, and continued nearly forty-four years attached to Longleat. His principal literary work is "A General View of the Agriculture of Wiltshire."

He died November 10, 1807, and was interred in the village church of Horningsham.\*—"As a well-informed agriculturist, his numerous and very valuable communications to the Board of Agriculture, and the Bath and West of England Society, bear ample testimony. As an arbitrator of questions of right between man and man, his judgment and integrity were always unquestionable."—*Monthly Magazine*, Vol. XXIV. 511.

On RODDENBURY-HILL, about a quarter of a mile north of Longleat, and close upon the confines of this county with Somersetshire, is a small earthen work called *Roddenbury-Camp*. It has only a single ditch and vallum, with two entrances on the east and west. Near it, on the western side of the same hill, is a smaller circular work, bearing the name of *Hays-Castle*. The whole of this eminence, which forty years ago was a naked waste, is now covered with a profusion of trees.†

### WARMINSTER,

a considerable market-town, is of great antiquity, and has been regarded by several authors as the *Ferlucio* of Antoninus; but others, with much greater probability, place that station at Hed-dington.

\* A portrait of Mr. Davis is prefixed to the second edition of his Report relating to the Agriculture of Wiltshire.

† Roddenbury Hill has lately been the scene of a most barbarous murder. On the 28th of December, 1812, George Carpenter, a labourer, went to the house of W. Webb, an inoffensive and respectable farmer, who resided at the base of the hill, accompanied by a person named Ruddock, who remained at the door while Carpenter entered. Mr. Webb was standing near the fire, and on the maid servant being sent to draw some cyder, was fired at, and dreadfully wounded by Ruddock. Both then attacked him, the former with the butt end of his musket, and the other with a flail, and mangled him in a shocking and brutal manner. The servant escaped from the cellar and from the house, but was pursued and struck to the ground, and afterwards precipitated into an adjoining well. The murderers at first escaped discovery; but some suspicious circumstances being observed in the conduct of Carpenter, he was apprehended, upon which he confessed himself guilty, and impeached Ruddock. Both of them were executed at Salisbury.

dington, in the vicinity of Calne. At the time of the Conquest Warminster appears to have been exempted from the payment of taxes,\* which circumstance, together with the evident derivation of its name, seems to point it out as the site of an ancient monastery. At a later period it was celebrated for its corn market. Leland, in his *Itinerary*, (Vol. VII. p. 67.) says, "Werminster, a principall market for corne, is 4 miles from Brookehaull, a mile to Westbury, and so three miles forth." The same thing is remarked by the author of *Magna Britannia*; and indeed, even at the present day, the market of this town continues to be abundantly supplied with wheat, barley, oats, &c. The market-day is Saturday; and there are besides three annual fairs, on the 22d of April, August 10, and October 23.

Warminster possesses no corporation within itself, and is therefore under the government of the neighbouring county magistrates, with the aid of constables chosen every year at the court leet of the Marquis of Bath, who is lord of the manor. The chief trade carried on here is the malting business, and a considerable manufacture of woollens. The latter has increased greatly within the last twenty years, and would no doubt have increased much more, but for the embarrassed state of our trade in general previous to the late change in our continental relations.†

The houses in this town are principally ranged in one very long street stretching along the sides of the turnpike road. At its western extremity stands the parish-church, which is a spacious and handsome edifice of stone, with a square tower at one end; and near the centre is a neat chapel of ease, erected some years ago for the greater convenience of the parishioners. There are besides in this town two places of worship belonging to dissenters;

\* Wyndham's *Domesday-book* for Wiltshire.

† On Saturday, the 25th of September, 1813, a meeting was held at Warminster, to take into consideration the propriety of establishing a regular market for wool in this town, when it was unanimously declared to be a most desirable measure, and calculated to promote, in a very high degree, the general interests of Wiltshire.

senters; also a good market-house, an assembly-room, and a free grammar-school for the education of twenty poor boys. This institution is endowed with a salary of thirty pounds per annum, and is in the gift of the Marquis of Bath.\*

The lordship of Warminster in ancient times formed part of the estate of the family of Mauduit. Robert de Mauduit, Earl of Warwick, died possessed of it in the 52d year of Henry III. This nobleman leaving no issue, it devolved to John de Mauduit, from him to his son Thomas, who, joining with the Earl of Lancaster in rebellion against Richard II. lost all his property, by forfeiture, to the Crown. It was restored, however, to his heirs, and passed from them to the Hungerfords. Mary, an heiress of that family, carried it, by marriage, to Edward Lord Hastings, the same who was beheaded in the Tower without trial, by order of the Duke of Gloucester, afterwards King Richard III. This monarch subsequently bestowed it on John Howard, whom he created Duke of Norfolk, and Earl Marshal of England. It is now the property of the Marquis of Bath.

According to the parliamentary returns of 1811, the town and parish of Warminster contained 1073 houses, and a population of 4866 persons. The petty sessions for the hundred, which takes its name from the town, are held here.

DR. SAMUEL SQUIRE, Bishop of St. David's, and an able and learned writer, was born at Warminster in the year 1714. His father, who was an apothecary, sent him to St. John's College, Cambridge, where he took the degrees of B. A. and M. A. and became a fellow of his college. At the age of 25 he was presented by Bishop Wynne to the chancellorship, and a canonry of Wells; and not long after he was collated to the archdeaconry of Bath, by the benefices of the same prelate. In 1748 his Majesty conferred on him the rectory of Topsfield, in Essex. In 1749 he

VOL. XV.—Sept. 1813.

X

took

\* A late master of this school, the Rev. T. Huntingford, brother to the Bishop of Gloucester, published a poem, intitled, "The Nuns Path," descriptive of some objects in this neighbourhood. The Nuns Path is a track on the side of a hill north of the town.

took the degree of D. D.; and, in the year following, resigned the living of Topsfield on being appointed to the rectory of St. Anne, Westminster. His next presentation was to the vicarage of Greenwich, in Kent; and when the household of his present majesty was established, as Prince of Wales, he was honoured with the appointment of clerk of the closet. In 1760 he obtained the deanery of Bristol, which he had scarcely enjoyed a full year, before the death of Dr. Ellys afforded his royal patron the opportunity of raising him to the dignity of Bishop of St. David's, which see he held till his decease, May 7, 1766.

Bishop Squire was a fellow of the Royal and Antiquarian Societies. He also frequently appeared before the public as an author, in different departments of literature. Some of his publications, especially those relating to divinity and antiquities, are held in considerable estimation among the learned. In the miscellaneous works of the celebrated and unfortunate Dr. Dodd, are several poetical pieces addressed to the bishop; and in the "Thoughts in Prison, Week IV," the same friend and patron is thus noticed:

"And still more, when urg'd, approv'd  
And bless'd by thee, St. David's, honour'd friend,  
Alike in Wisdom's, and in Learning's school,  
Advanc'd and sage," &c."

SOUTHEY.

\* The following are among the published productions of Bishop Squire;

1. "An Enquiry into the Nature of the English Constitution; or an Historical Essay on the Anglo-Saxon Government, both in Germany and England." 8vo.
2. "The Ancient History of the Hebrews Vindicated"
3. "Two Essays on Greek Chronology, and on the Origin of that Language."
4. "Plutarchi de Iside et Osiride, liber; Græce et Anglice, Græca recensuit, emendavit, Commentariis Auxit. Versionem Novam Anglicanam Adjecit. Samuel Squire, A. M." &c.
5. "An Essay on the Balance of Civil Power in England."
6. "Indifference for Religion Inexcusable; or a serious, impartial, and practical Review of the certainty, importance, and harmony of Natural and Revealed Religion."
7. "Remarks upon Mr. Carte's Specimen of his General History of England, &c."
8. "The Principles of Religion made easy to Young Persons, in a short and familiar Catechism." Also nine Sermons preached on public occasions. See "Literary Anecdotes of the Eighteenth century." By John Nichols, F. S. A.

**SOUTHLEY-WOOD**, so called from the circumstance of its lying to the south of Warminster, is distinguished by a small intrenchment, denominated *Robin Hood's Bower*, which is nearly of a square form, and comprises within its area about three-quarters of an acre of land. Close to the eastern boundary of this wood is another similar earthen work; and on its eastern side is a third intrenchment, resembling an amphitheatre in miniature. This last is a very curious work, and consists of a ditch and two valla. The outer vallum is about eighteen feet in height, and is very neatly formed.—“The breadth of the ditch is seven feet; the height of the inner work from fifteen to sixteen feet; and the length of the area of the inner work on its longest side (for it is of an oval shape) is one hundred and eleven feet.”\*

**CLEF, or CLAY-HILLS**, are two very singular knolls, one of which is much larger than the other, and rises very boldly from the surrounding plain, forming a very conspicuous object from every part of the adjacent country.

“In looking round to catch the varied scenes  
Which seem to crave admittance to my song,  
A rival hill appears, rais'd as it were  
By magic hands, amid the level plain;  
Against its shelvy side the lime-kiln leans,  
And stains with pitchy smoke the azure sky.”†

This hill is surrounded by a ditch and rampart, having the marks of very high antiquity; and on its summit are placed two barrows, and the pedestal of a stone cross. Both these tumuli were opened by Sir Richard Hoare, who ascertained one of them to be decidedly sepulchral; but no remains of any interment appearing in the other, it is supposed to have been designed for a beacon.

Each of these hills is of a conical shape; but the larger one terminates much more obtusely at the top than its smaller associate.

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\* Hoare's Ancient Wiltshire, Vol. I. p. 50.

† “Bidcombe Hill,” a poem, by the Rev. F. Skurray.



ciate. Concerning the etymology of their name various conjectures have been hazarded. That of Sir Richard Hoare, however, is probably the most correct, when he derives it from the Celtic word "cleis," signifying chalk, of which material both of them are formed.

As the ancient parochial boundary between Warminster and Corsley passes over the larger hill, it has been for time out of mind customary for a great concourse of people to assemble here on Palm Sunday to defend the boundary, and prevent encroachments.

At UPTON-SCUDAMORE, a small village in this vicinity, lived the Rev. *Thomas Owen*, A. M. the history of whose life furnishes a memorable example of what industry and perseverance can achieve when directed to praise-worthy objects. This gentleman, who was a native of the island and county of Anglesea, received the early part of his education at the grammar-school of Beaumaris. Leaving it, he entered as a servitor at Jesus College, Oxford, and distinguished himself so much by his knowledge of the Oriental languages, that he was employed by Dr. Kennicott to assist him in his Hebrew collations, and stood candidate for Archbishop's Laud's professorship of Arabic. In that object, however, he failed; but having offered himself soon after as a candidate for a fellowship in Queen's College, Oxford, he was fortunately successful; though opposed by two gentlemen of established character for abilities and learning. In consequence of this election he obtained the incumbency of Upton, where he immediately fixed his residence. Mr. Hicks, of Steeple Ashton, bequeathed him a considerable estate; and some years previous to his death a large addition was made to his fortune by the decease of two maiden ladies.

Mr. Owen's pursuits during this period of his life were not so much professional, as literary and rural. He took great delight, and engaged, as far as extended to amusement, and somewhat to profit, in agricultural concerns. Agriculture, indeed, seems to have been his favourite study, as he employed his leisure

more hours latterly in translating ancient treatises upon this subject. His published translations from Latin authors were from Varro, Columella, and Cato; besides which, he translated a collection of agricultural tracts by Greek authors, called "*Geoponica*." Mr. Owen died in his native county in 1811, when there on a visit to his relations, whom his testamentary bounty raised to opulence and independence.\*

North-east from Warminster, at the distance of a quarter of a mile, is a conical-shaped eminence called COP-HEAD-HILL, which is crowned by a large barrow, encircled by a ditch and vallum. This tumulus was opened in 1809, by Sir Richard Hoare, and found to contain several skeletons of male adults; also the skeletons of a full-grown female and of a child; besides an interment of burnt bones.

BATTLESBURY-CAMP occupies the summit of an irregular hill, situated about three-quarters of a mile further to the eastward. On the west and north-east sides this encampment is nearly inaccessible, from the steep and difficult nature of the ground; and on those sides where it is more easily approached, additional ramparts have been constructed exterior to the double ditch and vallum which surround the whole. The circuit of the outer vallum is seven furlongs and sixty-six yards, and the greatest height of the ramparts is sixty feet. The entrances are defended by outworks; so that this fortress must have been of vast strength at a period when the means of attack were comparatively deficient, or but little understood. The area of it, within the interior vallum measures twenty-three acres and a quarter, and is wholly under tillage. What is remarkable, at the south-west angle of the camp there are three barrows: one of them, a large circular  
X 3 tumulus.

\* The author of "*A Tour in quest of Genealogy*," has related, in that work, some personal anecdotes of Mr. Owen, which much offended and distressed the translator of the Greek Agriculturalists.

tumulus, fills the entire space of the inner ditch ; and the other two are placed in the line of the inner rampart. These last, on opening, proved to be sepulchral ; but no interment could be discovered in the other. They are all evidently of anterior date to the camp itself, and throw some light on the era of its construction : for, as Sir Richard Hoare observes, “ We still see them untouched and respected, and the ground taken from excavations near the large barrow to raise the rampart, rather than disturb these ancient memorials of the dead. I doubt if the barbarous Saxons would have paid such a tribute of respect to their British predecessors.”

Between this fortress and the village of Boreham, in the vale of the Wily, is seen one of the largest barrows in Wiltshire, from which circumstance it has been dignified with the appellation of *King-Barrow*. This tumulus stands north and south, with its large end towards the former point. It extends two hundred and six feet in length, fifty-six in breadth, and from fifteen to sixteen in height ; but is supposed to have been originally much larger. It was first opened in 1800 by Mr. Cunnington, when the skeleton of a horse, and three skeletons of human beings, were discovered, together with some pieces of stags' horns, boars' tusks, and rude pottery ; also a single-edged iron sword, about eighteen inches in length, and two in breadth, which lay on the thigh of one of the skeletons. The second opening took place under the direction of Sir Richard Hoare in 1809 ; but this gentleman was likewise unsuccessful in his search for the original interment, which, however, was probably distinct from the skeletons above-mentioned.

### HEYTESBURY.

HEYTESBURY, or HARES BURY, popularly called *Hatchbury*, is a borough, and was formerly a market-town ; but in consequence of its vicinity to Warminster its markets have been deserted and discon-

discontinued. The Empress Maud is said to have resided at this place at the time she was contending with Stephen for the throne. In the reign of Edward III. it was the lordship and abode of Bartholomew Lord Bargherh, who left it at his death to a son and heir of his own name. At this period it appears to have been divided into two manors, East-Court and West-Court, of which last the younger Bartholomew died seised in the forty-third year of the monarch above-mentioned, leaving only one child, a daughter, named Elizabeth, who carried it by marriage to Edward de Spenser; after whose death it was sold to Thomas, Lord Hungerford. That nobleman seems also to have purchased the manor of East-Court from the Badlesmere family, who had held it for several successions, as we find him mentioned as possessed of both manors in the seventh year of Richard II. From the Hungerfords this lordship passed to Edward, Lord Hastings, father to George, Earl of Huntingdon, in consequence of his marriage with Mary, daughter and heiress of Robert, Lord Hungerford.

Heytesbury is seated in a vale on the south-western verge of the open and extensive tract of country which bears the general designation of Salisbury Plain. Immediately in the vicinity rise many bold eminences, the summits of which are crowned with military fortifications, and other interesting remains of ancient art. Indeed, taking Heytesbury as the centre of a circle six miles in diameter, we believe no district in England, of similar extent, displays so many relics of remote times. Monuments of the industry, science, and customs of the Britons, Romans, Saxons, and Danes, abound here in great variety and profusion; and it must be highly satisfactory to every lover of archaeology, to know that most of them have been examined by the critical eye of an indefatigable and judicious antiquary, who resided on the spot, and spent the better part of his life in investigating their form and contents, and in elucidating their history and appropriation. We allude to the late Mr. Conington, whose re-

searches and collections form the chief basis of Sir Richard Hoare's "Ancient Wiltshire."

Heytesbury consists principally of one long street. It is a borough by prescription, governed by a bailiff and burgesses, and had formerly a weekly market. It still preserves, however, the privilege of sending two members to Parliament, which it first acquired in the 27th or 28th year of King Henry VI. The elective franchise is vested in the burgage holders, who are estimated at fifty in number. The patronage of this borough now belongs exclusively to Sir William-Pierce-Ashe A'Court, Bart. who some years ago purchased the interest of the Marlborough family. The lord's bailiff is the returning officer. Here are held the petty sessions for the hundred of Heytesbury; also an annual fair for cattle, sheep, &c. on the 14th of May.

The only public buildings in Heytesbury are an alms-house, or hospital, and the church. The hospital was originally founded, and partly endowed by Walter, Lord Hungerford, lord high treasurer of England, for the maintenance of twelve poor men and a woman. The same nobleman also built a house for a school-master, adjoining, "who was to be a priest, and not only teach grammar, but overlook the poor men." This charitable foundation was subsequently completed by Margaret, his widow, assisted by John Cheyne and John Mervin, about the year 1470. At that period a chaplain was settled in the hospital as warden, who was bound to celebrate divine service every day in the parish church for the health of the said Margaret so long as she lived; and for the souls of herself, Walter, her husband, and others, after her death. The revenue of this house was valued, 26 Henry VIII. at 38*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.* per annum. From its comparative insignificance it happily escaped dissolution, and now supports a warden, sub-warden, twelve men, and one woman. The warden is appointed by the chancellor of Sarum, and has the privilege of naming the sub-warden, who reads prayers every day for the poor people, all of whom are nominated by the lord of the manor.

manor. This hospital having been destroyed by fire, was rebuilt in its present form in 1769.\*

The church here is a spacious and massive structure, in the shape of a cross, with a square tower in the centre. The date of its erection is unknown; but some portion of it is probably as early as the middle of the thirteenth century, about which time it appears to have been made collegiate. It is dedicated to St. Peter, and has four prebends in the patronage of the Dean of Salisbury, viz. Hill-Deverill, Horningsham, Tidrington, and Swalecliffe. In this church is a tablet to the memory of Mr. Cunningham, inscribed as follows:

"Without the church-wall, at the back of this tablet, are deposited the remains of Mr. WILLIAM CUNNINGTON, Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries; a native of Northamptonshire; and many years resident in the town of Heytesbury, where he died on the 31st of December, 1810, aged fifty-six. By his decease the literary world has lost a persevering antiquary and skilful geologist; the community of Heytesbury a good neighbour and active fellow citizen; the poor an humane advocate and charitable protector; his own lamenting family an affectionate husband and indulgent parent."

This descriptive and apposite inscription, it is believed, was written by Sir Richard Hoare, who also inscribed his "History of Ancient Wiltshire" to the same 'persevering antiquary.' The circumstance was at once honourable to the baronet, and to the tradesman; and constitutes a novelty in dedications. Mr. Cunningham was certainly entitled to the compliment; for with him originated the work; and from his researches, zeal, and partiality to the subject, it was prosecuted and formed. A bad state of health at first occasioned Mr. C. to adopt the exercise of riding on horseback, and he chose the open Downs as the most healthful and pleasant place. Here his curiosity was excited, and his mind awakened to new objects of rational inquiry, and permanent

\* Tanner's Notitia. Magna Britannia, Wiltshire.

permanent amusement, by the numerous barrows, castrametations, and other vestiges of remote ages, which abound on the uncultivated parts of this district. From contemplating their surfaces and forms he was led to penetrate their interior, and seek for information from their contents. To the inquisitive and ardent mind every atom in nature and art will afford subject for contemplation. Thus to Mr. Cunningham, the vast encampment of the warlike Roman, and the puny mole hill were fraught with interest and amusement. It was at the commencement of this pursuit that he became acquainted with the author of the "Beauties of Wiltshire," and eagerly embraced every opportunity to assist and befriend that writer. They mutually aided and stimulated each other. Every barrow that was opened, and new discovery made by Mr. Cunningham, was detailed and described to his correspondent. In the height of this friendship, and antiquarian intercourse Mr. C. was introduced to the author of "Ancient Wiltshire," and was, during the remainder of his life, so much engrossed in that work, as to forsake his earlier correspondent. The result of his labours, and investigations, however, has been given to the public; and he has thereby bequeathed a valuable legacy to the antiquarian world. His collection of British and Roman urns, coins, and other relics, was large, and judiciously arranged. Among his curiosities at Heytesbury he had made a plan of the vast temple at Avebury, by placing pebbles in an arbour, and in the paths of his garden, to shew the form and arrangement of that monument. In the latter part of his life he made large collections of fossils and minerals; and from this new pursuit derived much interest and delight. This part of his museum has been sold to Dr. Parry, of Bath. The history and character of this truly amiable man, and valuable member of society are entitled to extensive publicity and general emulation. For were the higher, and middling classes of society, who are stationed in country towns, and villages to appropriate their leisure hours to antiquarian, philosophical, and literary pursuits,

instead

instead of general, or local politics, they would be more likely to promote their own happiness, and at the same time benefit society.

Close to the town is HEYTESBURY-HOUSE, the seat of Sir William-Pearce-Ashe A'Court, Bart, by whose family it has been possessed for upwards of a century. The mansion is a modern, brick building; and the pleasure-grounds are extensive.

COTLEY-HILL, situated on the north-western side of Heytesbury, is distinguished by a large tumulus, which occupies its summit, and is surrounded by a circular ditch and *vallum* of small elevation. This tumulus was opened in 1801, by Mr. Cunnington, but he was unable to discover any interment within it, though he dug up an abundance of animal bones, iron nails, and broken pottery of different sorts. Hence, and from the circumstance of the *vallum* being exterior to the ditch, it is concluded to have been a work originally appropriated to religious purposes. The south-west side is tolerably perfect; but the remainder is much defaced by the plough. The diameter of the circle when complete, would have been about one hundred and sixty yards. On its northern side are some trifling cavities in the soil, which, on examination, produced black mould to the depth of three feet, intermixed with fragments of Roman pottery. Similar depressions appear on other parts of the hill, which indicate that the Romans had used this eminence as an exploratory post.

Near Cotley is another strongly fortified hill, called SCRATCHBURY-CAMP, a name supposed to be derived from Crech, or Crechen, signifying a hill, or summit. This the encampment comprehends an area of forty acres, and from the remains of antiquity dug up within it, is proved to be of British origin. It consists chiefly of a single ditch and rampart; but on one side, where the natural strength is not so great as on the others, there is an additional *vallum* of very slight construction. The total circuit



circuit of the rampart is one mile eighty-six yards, and its greatest height is sixty-six feet. The entrances to this encampment are three in number: the principal one on the south-east is approached by a narrow neck of land, called Barbury: (barbican) another lies nearly east, and a third faces Middleton Farm and Battlesbury Camp. The first only is defended by out-works. Within the area are several tumuli, and likewise another earthen work, or interior camp, which occupies the apex of the hill. This, as well as the outer work, is of a circular form, but owing to its having been long under tillage its shape is much mutilated. On its northern side, which is most perfect, there is still some appearance of an entrance; and at a short distance from this is a very large, circular barrow, about three feet in elevation. When opened it was found to contain an interment of burnt bones, a small lance head of brass, a large amber ring, about fifty beads of the same material, and several brass articles, resembling a screw.\*

At PITMEAD, a large meadow on the south bank of the Wilty, about a mile and three quarters east from Warminster, and somewhat less than a mile from Scratchbury, some very interesting remains of Roman antiquity have been discovered. The first notice of the existence of such relics here occurred in 1786, when Mrs. Down, then resident at Warminster, being apprised of the accidental finding of a fragment of Mosaic work, personally examined the spot, and having discovered part of the flooring, and some of the ornaments of a Roman structure, made careful drawings of the whole, and sent them to the late Rev. Daines Barrington, by whom they were communicated to the Society of Antiquaries†. Among these remains was the pavement of a portico fifty-six feet long, and ten feet wide; and also the flooring of a most beautiful apartment, formed of tesserae, on which lay a mutilated female statue, (supposed to be that of Diana,) with a

here

\* Ancient Wiltshire, Vol. I. p. 70.

† These drawings were afterwards engraved and published in the *Vetus Monumenta*.

here at her feet. The greater portion of this pavement was carefully take up by the late Marquis of Bath, and deposited at Longleat, where a fragment of it is still preserved.

These discoveries for a short time strongly excited public curiosity; but this seems to have quickly subsided; and hence Pitmead and its antiquarian treasures were totally neglected, till the year 1800; in the course of which Mr. Cunnington turned his attention to the subject, and proved equally successful as Mrs. Down. This gentleman laid open another room, nineteen feet three inches square, the floor of which was composed of a rich Mosaic pavement, comprising a circular area, ornamented with flowers and birds, and inclosed within a square frame, edged on the outside with a braided guilloche, and on the inside with a labyrinthian fret. He likewise discovered an additional part of the grand portico before mentioned, sixty feet in length, and ten in breadth; so that it is probable its full extent was not less

than one hundred and forty feet. East from this building Mr. Cunnington at the same time observed another foundation with the remains of a sudatory and a hypocaust, and a profusion of tubellated bricks, tesserae, &c. from all which circumstances it seems reasonable to conclude that Pitmead must have been the site of a very large and magnificent Roman villa.

At BISHOPSTROW, a small village, nearly three quarters of a mile from Pitmead, a vast number of small brass Roman coins were dug up about fifteen years ago. They were contained in three urns; and were almost equal in quantity to the measure of a Winchester bushel. Most of them were deposited in the collection of Mr. Cunnington.

On WHITEN HILL, an insulated eminence, situated near Longbridge Deverill is a small earthen work, resembling in figure the letter D, with an entrance on the straight side, which faces the east. The area of this work is about an acre and a half in extent; and from the rampart being on the outside of the ditch, has evidently not been occupied as a military, or defensive po-

We presume, therefore, it must have been appropriated to religious purposes. Both on the north and south sides of this hill are vestiges of British habitation.

KNOOK-CASTLE is a small single ditched entrenchment, placed on the brow of an eminence on Upton-Lovel Down, about two miles to the north of Heytesbury. Its form is that of an irregular oblong, inclosing a space somewhat above two acres in extent, with an entrance on the south side. This earthen work is generally supposed to have been occupied by the Romans as a *Castra Stativa*, or summer camp; as coins and other remains of that people have been frequently dug up within its area. It was probably, however, first a British work; for near it is a ditch, and a vallum, called *Old Ditch*, which commencing near Westbury-Leigh, stretches itself, with few interruptions, across Salisbury Plain to Great-Durnford, on the river Avon. This ditch resembles that of Bokerly before mentioned\*, and like it displays at different parts of its winding course those appearances which mark the sites of British villages. Two of these settlements appear to have been seated within a quarter of a mile of *Knook Castle*. There are likewise in the vicinity of this entrenchment two slight earthen works, one of which, to the south, has suffered so much from the operations of the plough, that it is difficult to determine what has been its original form. The other, situated in *Elder-Valley*, a most sequestered spot, is more entire, and is truly a very singular work. In front is a ditch and vallum, in the form of an ogee arch, with an opening in the centre; and behind this is another ditch and rampart, disposed in the shape of a heart, and destitute of any entrance. The vallum of the outer work is without the ditch, and that of the inner work within it; and near the opening through the former is a large mound, or tumulus, which, upon investigation, proved not to be a pulchral, and is therefore conjectured by Sir Richard Hoare to have been raised as an altar. This conjecture is hazarded on the

\* Vide ante, p. 224.

the authority of Tertullian, and also of the sacred writings, where it is said, "An altar of earth shalt thou make unto me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy burnt-offerings, thy peace-offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen." \*

On the summit of a hill to the north-east of Elder-Valley is a large tumulus, called BOWLS-BARROW, which measures 150 feet in length, ninety-four in breadth, and ten and a half in height. It was twice opened by Mr. Cannington, who found that its interior parts were composed entirely of white marl stone, to the depth of four feet and a half, below which was a ridge of large stones and flints, extending wider towards the base of the barrow. This was a floor of flints regularly laid, on which were deposited the remains of fourteen human bodies, thrown together promiscuously within the space of ten feet by six. Near the skeletons was a large cist, and at the east and west ends of the barrow were discovered several heads of oxen, but no charred wood or pottery.

In the same parish with Knook-Castle, but almost close to the north bank of the Wily, is another large barrow, which, from the richness of its contents, has been denominated *Golden-Barrow*. It was first opened in 1803, when a variety of articles of *solid gold* were discovered, and among others, thirteen large beads, shaped like a drum, and two articles resembling boxes, about an inch in diameter, with a conical top, or lid. There was also found at this time a curious little cup of amber, studded over with "projecting knobs, which appear to have been first made in the form of glass stoppers to a bottle, and afterwards inserted into the circular holes of the cup, which had been previously drilled for receiving them; between these grape-like protuberances are other perforations, which still remain open." † This barrow was again opened, in 1807, by Sir Richard Hoare, who discovered two cups ornamented with zigzag indentations, and other ornaments, and also the primary deposit at the bottom of the tumulus.

BOXTON

\* Exodus, Ch. xx. v. 24.

† Ancient Wiltshire, Vol. I. p. 99.

BOYTON is a parish including the hamlet of Corton. The manor belongs to Aylmer Bourne Lambert, Esq. \* who possesses a respectable mansion in the parish. This house was built in 1618, by Thomas Lambert, an ancestor of the possessor. In the church is a circular, or Catharine wheel window. South of the village is *Ridge-Hood*, which consists of about 200 acres.

On the opposite bank of the Willy from Boyton, are the two villages of CODFORD ST PETER, and CODFORD ST MARK near which, on an eminence designated by the appellation of Codford Hill, is an earthen work, vulgarly called *Ogbury-Camp*, but clearly not of a military origin, or nature. It is similar to that on Rodmead Down, which has been already noticed, but much exceeds it in symmetry of form and beauty of situation. This very curious work occupies the summit of the hill on which it is placed, commanding a most extensive and interesting prospect. Its figure is nearly a perfect circle, and the vallum and foss by which it is surrounded are constructed with singular symmetry, but are so slight as to afford little or no defence. There is no appearance of any entrance, nor is the vallum extended to the ditch, as happens with most of those circles which have been used for religious purposes. Notwithstanding this, however, there can be little doubt, but that the present entrenchment was dedicated to some religious, or juridical ceremonies †. Its size, the nature of its plan, and its elevated site, all indicate such an appropriation; and this is further confirmed by its proximity to a large

\* This gentleman is a distinguished member of the Linnean Society and has published various essays on Botany, and Natural History, particularly on "The *Cucurbita Cinchona*," 4to. and on "The Genus *Pinus*," 8vo. pp. 21. 10s. in folio.

† The custom of worshipping on lofty places was very frequent in ancient times. In the Book of Kings we are told, "Nevertheless the high places were not taken away, for the people offered and burned incense yet in the high places." Strabo says that the Persians always worshipped upon hills, and Burder, in his "Oriental Customs," (Vol. II. p. 176.) remarks that this practice still prevails in Japan.

large British settlement, which covers several acres of ground; for frequent examples can be produced of the existence of similar circles in the neighbourhood of British towns or villages \*.

YARNBURY-CAMP is situated in an angle formed by the old trackway from Salisbury to Bath, and the present turnpike-road from Amesbury to Mere and Taunton, by Deptford. This entrenchment offers a very fine specimen of ancient castrametation; and like most similar works on the Wiltshire Downs, occupies elevated and commanding ground. By the generality of authors its construction is referred to the Romans; but Sir Richard Hoare justly claims for it a British origin, though it was doubtless afterwards occupied and strengthened by the Romans and by the Saxons. In its present state this earthen-work consists of a double ditch and vallum, inclosing an area of twenty-eight acres and a half. The entrances are six in number; but several of these do not seem to have belonged to the original work. The principal one faces the east, and is defended by a strong and detached outwork; and there is also another on the west side with an outwork of an irregular form, which appears to have existed prior to the enlargement of the camp by the Romans. The inner rampart is very strong, and rises boldly to the height of fifty-two feet, and is constructed in a much more regular manner than the outer vallum, which from its rudeness would induce the belief that it had been raised in great haste. The circumference of the exterior ditch is one thousand seven hundred and sixteen yards. Within the area of this camp several slight excavations mark the site of ancient residence, and display, when dug into, many vestiges of British and Roman antiquity.

Near this entrenchment, a little beyond the tenth mile-stone from Sarum, is a very fine circular tumulus; and opposite to it are the remains of an earthen work, of an irregular shape, the

VOL. XV.—Nov. 1813.

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east

\* Ancient Wiltshire, Vol. I. p. 80.

east side approaching to the pentagonal, and the west to the circular form. The ramparts of this work are slight in their construction, and are therefore presumed to be of very remote origin.

Almost due south from Yarnbury, on the banks of the river Wily, is the village and parish of *Steeple-Langford*, the birth-place of THOMAS MERRIOT, a divine, and author, who was born here towards the close of the sixteenth century. This gentleman received the rudiments of his education at Wickham's School, Winchester, whence he removed to New College, Oxford, of which he became perpetual fellow in 1610. He was presented to the vicarage of Swalclive, near Banbury, in Oxfordshire, and gave instruction there in grammar, till his death in 1662, when he was buried in his own church. Merriot wrote two books for the use of schools, one of which was intitled "*Vulgaria*," or a Collection of Common Phrases, and the other "*Adagia Selectissima*," or Choice Proverbs.

About a mile from the small village of Wily, which is situated on the south bank of the river whence it derives its name, is a large British encampment, called *BILBURY-RINGS*, or *WILY-CAMP*, which occupies a point of Down, projecting from the great ridge, and having a gentle declivity to the north. It is defended on the east by double, and on the west by triple entrenchments, the outward one, particularly on the east side, being very broad and flat. The circuit of the outer vallum is four furlongs and one hundred and ninety yards; and the height of the ramparts twenty feet. Within the area, which comprises seventeen acres and a quarter of ground, are vestiges of another work of an irregular form, with the ditch within the vallum. This work, Sir Richard Hoare supposes, to have been of prior construction to the more extensive fortifications. Many vestiges of Roman and of British art have been dug up within this encampment, which has numerous entrances; but some of them are evidently of late formation.

South from this encampment, near the western extremity of Grovely-Wood, are some very extensive works, commonly denominated **WEST-DOWN, or HANGING-LANGFORD CAMP**. These works occupy the summit of a hill, and are connected by a ditch, with a small circular work on the declivity below. From their great irregularity and want of symmetry, they are evidently of early British origin, though doubtless occupied subsequent to the arrival of the Romans; as many articles of Roman manufacture have been dug up within the area. The principal entrance is towards the east, and appears to have been defended by out-works. A ditch encompasses nearly the entire work, which, from the complicated arrangement of its interior parts, cannot be accurately described without the aid of a plan.

A ditch and rampart similar to those of Bokerly and Old Ditch, connects this entrenchment with Stockton-works, which have been already described. These issue from *Grovely-wood*, close to the Roman road from Old Sarum, which they frequently cross in a sort of zig-zag manner, and proceed westward till they are lost in the Great Ridge Wood. This wood was anciently conjoined with Grovely-Wood, but is now separated from it by an extent of nearly four miles of open down. The whole was then designated by the appellation of *Grovely-Forest*, and such it appears to have been so late as the thirty-third year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when a law-suit occurred "between Edward, Earl of Hertford, and the Queen's Majesty, in behalf of Henry, Earl of Pembroke, concerning the bounds of the forest of Grovely in the county of Wilts;" in which it was decided that the last perambulation of 28 Edward I. and no other, stood good in law \*. In the middle of this wood is a house still retaining the appellation of Grovely-Lodge.

In traversing the boundaries of Grovely Wood, the antiquary perceives several ancient works to arrest his attention, besides the entrenchments above noticed. These are denominated

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Castle,

\* A Collection of curious Discourses, by Thomas Hearne, M. A. Oxford. 8vo. 1720.



Castle, Grovely-Castle, Grovely-Works, and Hamshill-Ditches, of which the first three are situated on the southern side of the wood, and the last on its northern side opposite the village of Barford.

EAST-CASTLE is a very curious little earthen work, placed on the summit of the same ridge of hill with Hanging-Langford Camp, but at the distance of three-quarters of a mile from the edge of the wood. At first sight, says Sir Richard Hoare, this entrenchment "bears the appearance of a Druid barrow, having a mound raised within its area; but, on opening it, we could discover no sepulchral deposit; and found only fragments of British pottery, and a rude bodkin made of bone. Its circumference is two hundred and four yards, and the contents of its area three-quarters of an acre."

GROVELY-CASTLE is situated on a point of down which rises almost immediately above the village of Little-Langford. This work consists of a single ditch and rampart, forming a sort of an irregular square, open on the north and north-east sides, from which circumstance, and from the absence of all vestiges of habitation, it seems probable that it never was completed, or at least never was used as a permanent residence. "Its form does not denote any high antiquity; and the bank and ditch running through it are modern. The area within the entrenchments, if complete, would contain about fourteen acres, and the circuit would be four furlongs and one hundred and thirty-two yards: the height of the rampart is thirty-three feet."

GROVELY-WORKS occupy, in the form of a crescent, another lofty point of down to the east of Grovely-Castle. Though covering above sixty acres of ground, and commanding an extensive and diversified prospect, it is not a little remarkable that they never have been noticed in any map, or in any publication, prior to Sir Richard's Hoare's Ancient Wiltshire. Like the works of Stockton, they evidently constitute the remains of an ancient British town, extending upwards of a mile in length, but

differ from them in many particulars, which seem to indicate the hand of a more modern engineer; especially near the centre, where there are some strong ramparts, much more regular in their plan, and of a different character from the earlier portion of the works. From the very limited extent of these ramparts, it is difficult to comprehend the object of their construction. A short distance east from them is one of those small pentagonal inclosures, which are apparently peculiar to British towns. Still further eastward a bank and ditch issue from the body of the works, and point to the vale below. The ramparts now become exceedingly slight; but, on turning the eastern angle of the hill and wood, they assume a much more decided and conspicuous character. Here also the original works seem to have been interrupted by the addition of entrenchments of a stronger construction, and of a later era; and exterior to them are numerous excavations, which, when dug into, afford all the traces of a mixed British and Roman population.

HAMSHILL-DITCHES, the only other earthen work which remains to be mentioned of those connected with Grovely-wood, are situated near its western extremity, on a point of down projecting towards the village of Barford. This work likewise is the site of a large British village, having some strong ramparts at its northern end, resembling those in the works last described. From the eastern corner issues a large ditch, one branch of which steers its course westerly through the wood to Grovely-Works; while the other, taking an opposite direction, "passes through the village of Chilhampton, crosses the vale of Wily, and then proceeds across the turnpike-road from Salisbury to Devizes, towards the vale of Avon opposite to Little Durnford."

## WILTON,

or *Wily-town*, called by the old writers *Vilodunum*, and *Ellandunum*, is seated in a broad and fertile valley, near the confluence

ence of the rivers Nadder and Wily, at the distance of three miles west of Salisbury. It is a town of great antiquity, and is supposed by Baxter to have been the *Caer-Guilou*, or chief seat of the British prince Carvilinus.\* According to Henry of Huntingdon, it afterwards constituted the capital of the West-Saxon dominions;† but Leland and Dr. Milner contend that Winchester was the chief town of that monarchy.‡ It is not improbable that both places were, at different periods, possessed and occupied by the West-Saxon kings.

Wilton was undoubtedly a place of distinguished consequence for some centuries antecedent to the Norman Conquest. It contained several eminent religious establishments; and was the principal town of this district of the country, as appears from its having given name to the shire.§ Leland informs us that it possessed no fewer than twelve parish churches,|| even so late as the reign of Henry III. a statement which, were it fully authenticated, would afford decided proof both of its great extent and population. We must confess ourselves, however, somewhat doubtful of its truth, but the mere circumstance of its being stated, shews that Wilton was formerly considered to have been a large and well inhabited town. The West-Saxon monarchs had most probably a palace here;¶ and it is beyond question that they conferred upon this place many marks of their royal favour.

During

\* Glossar. Antiq. Britann. Edit. Secund. Lond. 1733. sub verb. Carvili-  
lium.

† Tertium. Westsear. cujus caput erat Wiltonia quæ nunc data est San-  
cimonialibus, in quo sunt urbes Wincestria, Salisburia et plures alie. Hist.  
Rer. Angl. post Bedam. Script. p. 298.

‡ Leland's Collectanea, Vol. III. p. 290.—History of Winchester, Vol. I.

§ Wiltuna est vicus non exiguus supra Wile fluvium positus tantæ celebritatis  
ut totus pagus ab ea vocatur.—Wilton is a town of no small extent, situated  
on the river Wily, and is of such celebrity, that the whole shire is called  
from it.—Wil. Malms. De Gest. Pontif. Angl. Edit. Savile, p. 252.

|| Leland's Itinerary, Vol. III. fol. 53.

¶ S. Alburga, the sister of King Egbert, was born at Wilton.—Leland Col-  
lectanea, Vol. III. 219.

During their dynasty Wilton was a royal borough, and appears to have been the scene of several important events in history. In the year 823 Egbert engaged in this vicinity, and completely defeated the Mercian army commanded by their king Beornwulf, who had invaded Wessex, in the full confidence of conquest, from the great numerical superiority of his troops. This signal overthrow established the supremacy of the West-Saxon prince, and eventually enabled his successors to render themselves sole sovereigns of England;\* for most of the other states being tributary to Mercia, fell an easy prey to the victor. Ethelwulf, the son and successor of Egbert, executed in this town the charter by which he conveyed the whole *tythes* of his kingdom to the clergy in 851. Here also was fought, in 871, a most sanguinary battle between King Alfred and the Danes, in which the Saxons were at first victorious, but pursued with so much precipitation that the invaders perceiving their error, rallied, and drove back their pursuers. The check, however, does not seem to have been decisive, as we find the Danes immediately after petitioned for peace, upon terms which shew that Alfred, though beaten, still possessed a formidable army, and that the loss of his antagonists was at least

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equal

\* Sax. Chron. A. D. 823.—Flor. Wigorn. p. 297. Some modern authors, and among them Bishop Gibson, have questioned whether the “Ellandunum,” mentioned as the scene of this battle, was really Wilton. They allege, as reasons for their doubts, the improbability of so powerful a prince as Egbert permitting Beornwulf to penetrate so far as Wilton into his dominions, without opposing him in a pitched battle. They also adduce the Winchester Annals, which state that this fight took place at “Ellendune,” (Ellington, near Highworth,) a manor which belonged to the priory of St. Swithin’s, at Winchester, in the reign of Richard II. Neither of these reasons, however, are satisfactory. Egbert, who had just been engaged in a most sanguinary war with the Britons in the west, at the period of Beornwulf’s invasion, required time to collect his forces in sufficient strength to offer battle, and therefore retreated to Wilton from prudential motives. Besides, Florence of Worcester identifies “Ellandunum” as the same place at which Alfred subsequently fought the Danes, i. e. “in monte Wiltonæ,” and adds, that the river ran with blood.

equal to his own. Some writers, indeed, even assert him to have been ultimately the conqueror.

The next transaction of historical note which happened here, was the burning of the town by Swein, King of Denmark, in the year 1003, when that monarch laid waste all the western counties of England, in revenge for Ethelred's inhuman massacre of the Danes about two years previous. But notwithstanding this calamity, Wilton soon recovered its pre-eminence among the West-Saxon towns, and continued to flourish till the reign of King Stephen, who having marched hither "in order to erect a fort for repressing the incursions of the garrisons of Warcham and Salisbury," was attacked by the forces of the Empress Maud, under the command of the Earl of Gloucester, and narrowly escaped being taken prisoner.\* On this occasion Stephen's army was put to the rout with immense slaughter, and the town was again given up to pillage, and set fire to by the conquerors.† It speedily, however, rose once more with renovated splendour from its ashes; but began to decline in the succeeding reign, in consequence of the foundation of New Sarum, and the change in the direction of the great western road which soon after followed that event. Ieland, alluding to this subject, observes, "Licens was get of the king by a bishop of Saresbyri to turn the kingges highway to New Saresbyri, and to make a mayn bridge of right passage over Avon at Harnham.

\* This event is recorded in several of the ancient authors, and there seems no reason to doubt its truth; yet it is remarkable that Stephen should fix on a place so situated as Wilton for the site of a fortress; and it is equally remarkable that there are no remains of any castellated work, nor any tradition concerning its existence among the inhabitants. We were therefore, at first view, inclined to think that the old writers had confounded this Wilton with the town of the same name in Herefordshire, where Stephen certainly constructed a castle; but the distance of the latter from Salisbury and Warcham, (to check the incursions of which garrisons was the king's object in fortifying Wilton) and the subsequent details of Gloucester's movements, are at variance with such an opinion. It is probable, however, that Stephen had not advanced his intended work very far at the time of his defeat.

† Carte's History of England, Vol. I. 550.

Harnham. The chaunging of this way was the totale cause of the ruine of Old-Saresbyri and Wiltoun."

Queen Elizabeth visited this town in September, 1579, and received here the French ambassador, whom his master had sent over to England "on a complimentary mission, rather than for any business of state importance." Here also the court resided for a short time in October, 1603.\*

But notwithstanding the great decay of Wilton as above-mentioned, it continued for many centuries after the conquest famous for its monastic institutions, and particularly for its abbey. This owed its original institution to Wulstan, Earl of Wiltshire, who having defeated Ethelmund, king of the Mercians, in a great battle, repaired "a certain old church at St. Mary at Wilton, which had before been destroyed by the Danes, and placed in it a college of secular priests to pray for the soul of his father, Alquimond, whom the Mercian monarch had put to death."† This foundation took place in the year 773, and remained without change so long as Wulstan lived; but, shortly after his death, his wife, Alburga, sister to king Egbert, prevailed on her brother to convert it into a nunnery for a prioress and twelve nuns. Hence Egbert is generally said to have been the founder of the monastery. The date of the conversion is uncertain, but it is commonly said to have been effected in 800. We presume, however, it must have occurred somewhat later, as Egbert did not mount the throne earlier than the middle of that year, at which time Wulstan was yet alive. The next change happened about the year 871, immediately subsequent to the battle and peace between Alfred and the Danes above noticed, when the Saxon monarch, at the instigation of his queen, Egwina, built a new monastery on the site of his own palace, and transferred hither the religious of the old nunnery, thirteen in number, to whom he further added an abbess and twelve more nuns.\* Edward the Elder

\* Illustrations of British History, Biography, and Manners, by Edmund Lodge, Esq. F. S. A. Vol. II. p. 121.—Vol. III. 205.—See Nichols's "Progresses of Queen Elizabeth."

† Ex Chronico quodam Vilodunensi.—Leland Collectan. Vol. III. p. 219.

Elder was a great benefactor, to this abbey,\* as were likewise his three sons and successors, Athelstan, Edmund, and Edred.—Edgar,† the tool of the ambitious Dunstan, both enlarged its buildings, and augmented its revenues, principally for the sake of Edith, his natural daughter, by Wulfrida, who was a nun, and subsequently, abbess here, and whom the king had ravished.‡ Edith was likewise a nun and abbess of this monastery, and having been canonized after her death, became its patron saint.§ Another Editha, queen to Edward the Confessor, was the next great benefactress to this institution. That princess having received her education at Wilton, (we presume in the abbey,) always manifested a peculiar regard for the prosperity of the town. Before her time the buildings of the monastery had been chiefly constructed of wood. These she pulled down entirely, and rebuilt the whole of stone, in a most magnificent style. After the Conquest, King William, and several of his successors, added greatly to the opulence of this abbey; but few incidents of its history are recorded, except the following very singular story, which is related by Godwin in his *Lives of the Bishops*.—"About this time (1299) there was a certain knight, Sir Osborne Gifford, of Kout-hill,

\* So great indeed were his benefactions, that in the charter of Edgar, granted A. D. 974, he is called founder.

† For this offence Edgar underwent a penance of seven years.

‡ This lady was niece to the famous St. Editha, abbess of Pollesworth and Tamworth, and appears to have governed no fewer than three monasteries. Aubrey informs us, that she was a lady of singular merit and great piety; and being more costly in her dress than seemed to become her profession, she was reprimanded for it by Bishop Ethelwald, to whom she boldly replied, "That God regarded the heart more than the garments; and that sin might be hid as well under rags as robes."—Capgrave, in his *Lives of the saints*, further says of this lady, that when offered the crown by Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, after the murder of her brother Edward at Corfe Castle, she refused with abhorrence, "not because she was a nun, but for other politic reasons." She died in 984, and was buried in the church of St. Dennis at Wilton, which she had erected. St. Dunstan is said to have foretold her death, and was present when the event took place.

hill, who stole out of the nunnerie of Wilton two fair nuns, and carried them off. This coming to the ears of the Archbishop of Canterbury, John Peckham, he first excommunicated the said knight, and then absolved him on the following conditions:—1st. That he should never come within any nunnerie, or into the company of a nun; 2dly. That for three Sundays together he should be publicly whipped in the parish church of Wilton, and as many times in the market-place and church of Shaftesbury.—3dly. that he should fast a certain number of montes; 4thly, That he should not wear a shirt for three years; and, lastly, That he should not any more take upon him the habit and title of a knight, but should wear apparel of a russet colour until he had spent three years in the Holy Land.” All these penances, adds Godwin, Peckham made Giffard swear to perform before he would grant him absolution. The same story is recited in Weaver’s *Funeral Monuments*, Edition 1631.

Wilton Abbey was dissolved in the thirty-fifth year of Henry VIII. by whom the site and buildings were granted to Sir William Herbert, afterwards created Earl of Pembroke. Its religious inmates were of the Benedictine order, and seem to have been usually selected from among the daughters of the nobility. At the suppression, its revenues, according to Dugdale, were estimated at 60*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*—but Speed states their amount as high as 652*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.*\*

No portion of the buildings of this monastery is now standing; the greater part having been pulled down soon after the dissolution. That they were of considerable extent and grandeur, however, is evident, from the statement of William of Worcester, (*Itinerary*, p. 81.) who says that the church “*continet in longitudine circa 90 steppys meos. Item continet in latitudine navis ecclesie cum duabus clys circa 46 steppys meos.*”

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\* The prioress of this monastery was, in right of her title, a baroness of England. The lady elected to that station by Cardinal Wolsey is said to have excited the indignation of Henry VIII. because, by report, she had been, in her youth, noted for incontinence.—See the King’s Letter to the Cardinal in Fiddes’s *Life of Wolsey*.



The other monastic institutions in this town, independently of the abbey, were a *House of Black Friars*, which was granted to Sir William Herbert in the sixth year of King Edward VI.; an *Hospital* dedicated to *St. Mary Magdalene*, mentioned by Aubrey; a *Collegiate Church*, noticed by Rymer;\* and an *Hospital* dedicated to *St. John*. The last is still in being, and supports a master, or prior, (who is a clergyman in the nomination of the Dean of Sarum,) two poor men, and the like number of poor women. These are chosen by the master, and have a pension of 4l. 10s. 6d. each, for their maintenance and firing, besides a suit of clothes annually. The era of the foundation of this hospital is uncertain; but it is commonly attributed to Hubert, who was installed Bishop of Sarum in 1189, and Archbishop of Canterbury in 1193. It stood near one of the town gates, and is first mentioned in record as an hospital, for a prior and poor brethren, A. D. 1217. At the period of the suppression, there were only four persons in it; and its revenues, with the chapel of Burcomb, were then estimated "at 16l. 18s. 4d. per annum in the whole, and 14l. 13s. 10d. *ob. clear*."†

Wilton, though, as already observed, much decayed, in extent and population, as well as in importance, still retains many of its ancient privileges. It is a borough both by prescription and by charter, and is governed by a corporation of its own, consisting of a mayor, recorder, five aldermen, three capital burgesses, and eleven common-council men, with a town clerk, and other officers, as fixed by the last charter granted in the reign of Henry VIII.

#### Wilton

\* Some have questioned whether this college was a distinct establishment; and think the prebendaries here were only secular clergymen, provided for out of the lands and churches belonging to the abbey.‡ The reason for this opinion is, that upon the patent rolls often occur, especially during the vacancy of the abbey, grants or presentations from the Crown, of the prebends of Chalk, Stanton, and South Newton, in the conventual church of Wilton, to secular clerks; at all which places the abbey had possessions. Indeed, the prebend of South Newton was granted to Sir William Herbert as part of the possessions of the monastery.

† Tanner's Notitia. Wiltshire.

Wilton sends two members to Parliament, and has regularly done so since the twenty-third year of Edward I. In 1710, it was agreed that the elective franchise was vested "in the mayor and burgesses, who are to do all corporate acts, and receive the sacrament." The number of voters is stated at twenty-four, in the History of Boroughs, where it is likewise observed that "the election of any person to be a burgess of Wilton, who has not taken the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, according to the rites of the church of England, within one year before such election, is a void election." The mayor is the returning officer; and the patron of the borough is the Earl of Pembroke, whose seat, in the immediate vicinity of the town, will be noticed in the sequel.

Wilton being, as mentioned above, the shire town, the county courts of justice are sometimes held here; as are likewise the elections for the county members. The precise spot where the electors meet to choose their representatives, is marked by a large stone placed erect in the Warren, at a short distance south of the town. The market-days here were formerly Wednesday and Friday in every week; but the Friday market is now dropped; and that on Wednesday is only very partially attended. The fairs are held on the 4th of May, and the 12th of September. On the latter day several thousand sheep are brought here from various parts of the country.

The principal public buildings in this town are the parish church and the town-hall. The living is a rectory, including Bulbridge, Ditchampton, and Nether-hampton, and is in the gift of the Earl of Pembroke. In the town-hall, which is an old structure, is a drawing of the great seal affixed to the charter of Wilton. It is commonly supposed to be that of William and Mary; but the Rev. Mr. Coxe says, the figures are evidently those of Henry VII. and his queen Elizabeth.

The other buildings here appropriated to public purposes, are two chapels, one belonging to the Methodists, and another to the Independents; a free-school, and eight alms-houses for poor people.

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At the free-school twenty-five boys are clothed, educated, and allowed ten pounds when put out as apprentices. The name of the founder of this school is not recorded; but we find that Robert Sumption was a great benefactor to it. This person bequeathed a considerable sum of money to the corporation, to provide a dowry of thirty pounds to certain young women who marry at Easter. He further left a legacy to provide six men, and as many women, with an annuity of six pounds each.

Wilton, including the borough and parish, contains, according to the parliamentary returns of 1811, 393 houses, and a population of 1963 persons. In the last century it was much noted for its carpet manufactories, which gave employment to a large proportion of the inhabitants. The first *carpet*, indeed, made in England, was manufactured at Wilton, by, and under the superintendence of Anthony Duffosy, whom the grandfather of the present Earl of Pembroke brought from France for the express purpose of establishing that branch of business here. The same nobleman likewise introduced here the manufacture of a peculiar kind of cloth, known by the name of marble cloth, which was for some time in fashionable repute. Both these manufactures, however, have now declined at Wilton, and are only partially supplied by a small trade in flannels and fancy woollens.

JOHN of WILTON, *Senior*, was born in this town towards the close of the thirteenth century. He was bred a friar of the order of St. Augustine, and was noted among the most learned and subtle disputants of his time. After studying several years in England, he went to Paris to finish his education. Fuller, in his *Worthies of England*, informs us that he had a large stock of sermons, "having written his Summer, his Winter, his Lent, and his Holiday sermons." The period of his death is not recorded.

JOHN of WILTON, *Junior*, another native of this town, lived in the reign of Edward III. about fifty years posterior to his namesake. He was bred a Benedictine monk in the abbey of Westminster; and is spoken of by Bale as being an elegant writer  
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in Latin, “*præter ejus ætatis sortem* :” that is, above the attainments of his age. His principal works were, “*Metricall Meditations*,” in imitation of St. Bernard; and a book, intituled “*Horologium Sapientiæ*,” (the Clock, or Dial of Wisdom,) which has been much esteemed even in later times. Both in his writings and his conversation he is said to have evinced much partiality for allegory; and was often dextrous “in such figurative conceits.”

**THOMAS** of **WILTON**, D. D. lived in the time of Edward IV. Of his education and early life nothing is known, except that he was a native of Wilton, and was a man of great learning and abilities, qualities which recommended him first to the chancellorship, and afterwards to the deanery of St. Paul’s in London. In the contests between the secular and regular clergy relative to their dress and style of living, which raged with such violence in the reign of Edward IV. our divine artfully opposed the Friars. Following the example of the great Scipio, who attacked Carthage, as the best method of drawing Hannibal from Italy, he diverted the attention of the friars from the bishops, by a vigorous attack upon their own foibles and vices. His chief work relative to this subject, was intituled, “*An Validi Mendicantes sint in statu perfectionis*”— “Whether Friars in health, and begging, be in a state of perfection;” a question which he resolved in the negative, and endeavoured to prove that such persons were “rogues both by the laws of God and man, and fitter for the house of correction” than the state they aimed at.

### WILTON HOUSE,\*

the much noted seat of the Herbert family, is seated at the eastern extremity of the town, in a fine park. The present edifice

\* This mansion is extra-parochial; and, though constituting part of the parish of Broad Chalk, it is exempt from the assessment of tithes to that parish and to Wilton.

fice is a large and extensive pile. It has been erected at different periods, and displays very different and incongruous styles of architecture. It was formerly an abbey, as already noticed, and preserved some features and characteristics of monastic architecture till very lately; but the recent alterations by James Wyatt, have swept away all its ancient members, and substituted in their place a discordant mixture, or assemblage of Roman and "Gothic" forms. Soon after the dissolution of Wilton Abbey, some considerable alterations were made in the arrangement of the buildings for domestic purposes, by William, the first Earl of Pembroke. A new porch was built in the inner court, from designs by Hans Holbein.\* King Charles I. is said to have been particularly partial to Wilton, and frequently resided here. During his eventful reign many alterations were made in this mansion. Monsieur Solomon de Caus, Inigo Jones, and Webb, were successively engaged to enlarge and embellish it. The first is said to have erected the garden front, which was consumed by fire in the year 1648. Philip, the fourth Earl of Pembroke, who then resided at Wilton, applied to Inigo Jones to re-edify the destroyed parts of the edifice; but, as Aubrey relates, Jones was too old to attend in person, and "left it to Mr. Webb, who married his niece,"† to superintend the work. Few alterations are described as having been made at Wilton from the time of Webb, till the beginning of the present century, when James Wyatt, Esq. R. A. was employed by the present noble proprietor to enlarge the mansion, and adapt it for the better display of its rich stores of ancient sculpture and paintings. A chief feature of this alteration has been the formation of an inclosed, or glazed cloister, round a central court. This is to contain nearly the whole collection of statues,

\* "Of Holbein's Architecture," observes Walpole, "nothing now remains standing but the beautiful porch at the Earl of Pembroke's." Aubrey, in his MSS. says, that Inigo Jones described this porch as a specimen of "as good architecture as any in England." This porch has been taken to pieces, during the late alterations.

† Aubrey's MSS, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.

tues, busts, basso-relievos, &c.\* Another considerable novelty, is a large court-yard on the north, surrounded by offices, a lodge and a new side to the house. The approach is through a triumphal arch, which is surmounted by a bold equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius.† Passing this the visitor is conducted to a vestibule, which leads to the cloister, or rather gallery, which surrounds an open court. This cloister as well as the vestibule, are to be filled with ancient marbles; and it is presumed that the whole, when perfected and arranged, will present an imposing and truly interesting coup d'œil. Statues, busts, basso-relievos, fragments and inscriptions, of various sizes, ages, and characters, constitute this collection. Many of these are extremely curious and valuable as productions of art, or memorials of antiquity. From the confused state in which they are at present, and from the limited nature of the present account of Wiltshire, we are precluded from enumerating the whole, or from animadverting on the excellencies of the best. It must suffice to point out a few of those objects which are generally regarded with most attention.

Among the STATUES the most remarkable are: An Amazonian queen bending on one knee, and apparently in the act of defending herself in battle:—A Colossal Hercules:—Marcus Antoninus, the orator; the attitude admirable:—A dying Hercules;

VOL. XV.—Nov. 1813.

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\* At the time this account is penned, Wilton-House is in such an unfinished and disorganized state, that it will be impracticable for us to give a classed, or particular description of the sculpture, pictures, and other curiosities. As Mr. Westmacott has been consulted about the arrangement and display of the first class, it is confidently expected that this part of the collection will hereafter be viewed in the most favourable and useful manner.—However gratifying it may be to possess rarities of art, the man of true taste and liberality will derive most permanent pleasure from unfolding them to his friends, and to the discriminating part of the public.

† This arch, &c. was formerly placed on the summit of a hill in the park; and in that absurd and injudicious situation was very properly reprobated by Mr. Gilpin, in his "Western Counties;" who therein observes, that "a triumphal arch would be perhaps too pompous a structure to form a part of the approach to the house; yet in that capacity, it might have been suffered."

part of this group, says Gilpin, is good, particularly the expression of Peau; "but the principal figure, though in miniature, is monstrous, and the character is unpleasing:"—An Apollo about two feet high; a most beautiful statue, and the sculpture equal to that of the very best ages:—Cupid breaking his bow after his marriage with Psyche:—Saturn holding a Child:—Venus holding a Vase:—A colossal statue of Apollo, in a resting position:—A Roman Esculapius, represented with a flowing beard, and much hair on his head:—A Naiad, sleeping, the upper part of which is elegant:—A Faunus, by Cleomenes:—Cleopatra and Cæsarion:—The Father of Julius Cæsar:—A small Meleager:—A small statue of Bacchus placed on an ancient triangular altar dedicated to that god, who is here judiciously portrayed with a noble aspect; and not with the countenance of a drunkard, as is most common:—An ancient statue, said to be a Venus sleeping, may also be ranked among the finest in this collection; but it is unhappily much injured by the decay of its substance.

The BUSTS most worthy of notice are:—Apollonius Tyanæus:—a Pythagorean Philosopher of the first century, a fine and highly interesting head:—Octavia, Nero's first wife; a very curious bust, the head-dress particularly fine:—Poppææ, the tyrant's second wife:—Metellus imberbis:—Marcus Brutus:—Julius Cæsar:—Prusias, king of Bythia, who betrayed Hannibal:—Alcibiades:—Marcus Modius:—Hannibal:—Pindar:—Sophocles:—Pompey:—Labienus Parthicus:—Cleopatra, the sister of Alexander:—Adrian:—Lepidus:—Miltiades:—Semiramis:—Aspasia, celebrated for her beauty and learning, as well as for her intrigues:—Lucan:—Caracalla:—Marcellus the younger:—Cecrops:—Vitellius:—Calba, and Aventinus; the son of Hercules:—the last is one of the best pieces of workmanship in the collection: Pyrrhus of Epirus is entitled to similar praise. "The air of this bust," says Gilpin, "is very noble, and is impressed with the whole character of the hero. A Colossæan bust too of Alexander the Great is striking; but the head seems rather too long."

Among the RELIEFS the most conspicuous are:—Silenus  
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and his Ass ; a Victory, the composition of which is excellent :—Boys eating Grapes :—a Fauness and Child :—the Story of Clelia :—Niobe and her Children, very fine ;—a Boy on a Sea-horse, blowing a concha :—Cupid at the breast of Venus, with Mars standing near her :—Saturn crowning the Arts and Sciences :—Saturn with his Scythe :—Curtius leaping into the fiery gulph :—Ulysses in the Cave of Calypso :—Galatea :—Cupids and Boys :—a Priestess Sacrificing ; the animals are peculiarly beautiful. Hercules in the garden of the Hesperides : this piece is of mosaic work, composed of different pieces of marble ; it is singularly fine, and probably *unique* ; at least it is uncertain whether any similar work is now existing. A votive relieve in honour of Jupiter, of very high antiquity ; the Front of Meleager's Tomb, on which is represented the story of that prince, from the killing of the boar to the burning of the fatal billet ; also the Tomb of Aurelius Epaphroditus, with a representation of the recovery and education of Triptolemus, son of Cereus, king of the Eleusinians, by the goddess Ceres.

PICTURES.—Besides the objects already mentioned, Wilton-House contains a very extensive and valuable collection of pictures, among which the following are the most remarkable for taste, science, and execution.

Mrs. Killigrew and Mrs. Morton, by Vandyck, in his best manner. King Charles the First, by the same artist. Christ taken from the Cross, by Albert Durer. Democritus, by Spagnoletto. Four Children, by Rubens. The Woman taken in Adultery, by Janiero. The Virgin, Christ, St. John, and St. Catherine, by Parmegiano. A Nativity, by Jan Van Eyck, painted in 1410. An Old Man selling Plumbs to Children, by Francis Halls. The Assumption of the Virgin, by Rubens. A Portrait of Titian, by himself. Mary Magdalen, by the same artist. The Virgin with Christ, by Andrea del Sarto ; also several family portraits, and a large family piece, by Vandyck. The last is a very celebrated picture, containing ten full-length figures : viz. Philip, Earl of Pembroke, and his Countess, who are represented sitting.



sitting, with their five sons standing on their right hand, and their daughter, and her husband, the Earl of Caernarvon, on their left: before them is Lady Mary Villiers, who was betrothed to Lord Charles Herbert; and in the clouds appear three children, two boys and a girl, who died young. Gilpin is very severe in his criticisms upon this piece, which he professes to have examined with great attention. Determined to find fault with it, he could neither "admire it in the whole, or in its parts." It is, according to him, deficient in design and composition, glaring in its colouring, and totally devoid of harmony. In short, instead of allowing it to be the master-piece of the artist, he decries it as the worst of his paintings. These censures, however, are certainly undeserved, and could easily be refuted upon the acknowledged principles of the Arts, did our limits permit us to enter into a discussion of the peculiarities and merits of the piece. It could likewise be defended respecting the colouring, upon the ground of its having been much injured by cleaning and alterations, executed by unskilful hands.

**HERBERT FAMILY.**—The very early ancestors of the Herbert family are uncertain: the British genealogists deduce its origin from Herbert, a natural son to King Henry I.; but Sandford thinks it more evident that Henry Fitz-Herbert, chamberlain to that monarch, was ancestor to all of the name of Herbert. The first who had the title of Earl of Pembroke, was William Herbert, son to Sir William ap Thomas, who resided at Ragland Castle, in Monmouthshire, and received the honour of knighthood from King Henry V. for his valour in the field of Agincourt. This nobleman was a strong adherent to the interests of the house of York, and lost his head, with his brother, the day after the battle of Edgecote, in which he was defeated and taken prisoner by the Lancastrians. He was succeeded by his son, William, who renounced the earldom of Pembroke for that of Huntingdon, at the request of King Edward IV. that monarch anxious to dignify his son, Prince Edward, with the title Earl of Pembroke. The honour, however, reverted to the  
Herberts

Herberts in the reign of Edward VI. who conferred it on Sir William Herbert, already mentioned as the first proprietor of Wilton monastery and its estates after the dissolution. He was succeeded by his son, Henry, who was one of the peers on the trial of the Duke of Norfolk, and also on that of Mary, queen of Scots. This earl had three wives, the last of whom, Mary, sister to Sir Philip Sidney, author of the celebrated romance called *Arcadia*,\* was a lady of great learning and accomplishments.† She brought her husband two sons, William and Philip, both of whom succeeded to the earldom in succession. The eldest,

WILLIAM, THIRD EARL of PEMBROKE, was born at Wilton April 8, 1580, and was educated at New College, Oxford. In 1603 he was made a knight of the garter; and, in the fifteenth year of James I. became chancellor of the University of Oxford, and lord-chamberlain of the household. Charles I. constituted him warden and chief justice of all the forests south of Trent; also warden of the Stannaries, which dignities he held till his death, which occurred at his house, called Baynard's Castle, in London, April 10, 1630. His lordship married Mary, eldest daughter and coheir to Gilbert, Earl of Shrewsbury, by whom he had issue two sons, but they both died infants. Anthony Wood speaks of him as not only possessed of great learning himself, but an encourager of it in others; and Lord Clarendon, who has drawn his portrait with the hand of a master, exhibits him

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\* This work was written at Wilton-house.

† Ben Jonson's inscription to the memory of this lady, is among the finest epitaphs in the English language, and shews the high estimation in which her character was held by the poet.

“ Underneath this marble herse  
Lies the subject of all verse,  
Sydney's sister, Pembroke's mother;  
Death! e'er thou hast kill'd another  
Wise and fair and good as she,  
Time shall throw a dart at thee.”

as "the most universally beloved and esteemed of any man of that age." He wrote several poetical pieces, which were published in 1660, under the title of "Poems, written by William, Earl of Pembroke, &c. many of which are answered by way of repartee, by Sir Benjamin Rudyard, with other poems, written by them occasionally and apart." A few of his less effusions were set to music by Henry Lawes and Nicholas Lancare.

PHILIP HERBERT, who succeeded as fourth Earl of Pembroke, was also born at Wilton-house; but he possessed none of those qualities which throw so much lustre on his brother's character. He obtained, however, very high offices and honours, having been created Earl of Montgomery, and appointed successively lord-chamberlain of the household, and lord-warden of the Stanaries. He was twice married, and left a numerous family by his first wife, Lady Susan Vere, daughter to the Earl of Oxford. By his second lady, Anne, daughter and heiress of George, Earl of Cumberland, and widow of Richard, Earl of Dorset,\* he had no issue, at his death, which occurred January 23, 1649-50, when *Philip*, his fourth son, obtained his title and estates, his elder sons having died before their father. Concerning this nobleman

\* This Countess of Dorset, Pembroke, and Montgomery, was one of the most illustrious women of her own or of any other age. She possessed all the courage and liberality of the male sex, united to all the devotion, order, and economy of her own. She was the oldest and most independent courtier in the kingdom; had known and admired Elizabeth; had refused what she deemed an iniquitous award of King James; rebuilt her dismantled castles in defiance of Cromwell; and repelled, with disdain, the interposition of a profligate minister, under Charles II. Both her matrimonial connections were unfortunate, her first husband having been as licentious in his morals as her second was illiterate and weak. She was a great patron of literature in her youth; and in her maturer years was the truly benevolent friend of the ejected clergy, and of other distressed loyalists. History was her chief amusement, to the study of which she was probably first led by examining the annals of her own ancestors. She collected materials for a history of the illustrious families of the Cliffords and Veteriponts.—Whitaker's History of Craven.—Observations on the Mountains and Lakes of Cumberland, by W. Gilpin, M. A. Vol. II. Walpole's Royal and Noble Authors, by Park, Vol. III. 165.

Man nothing very remarkable appears on record. He died December 11, 1669, leaving his son, *William*, to the enjoyment of his honours and property. He dying soon after unmarried, was succeeded by his half-brother, *Philip*, seventh Earl of Pembroke, and fourth Earl of Montgomery, who died August 29, 1683, when the title descended to his brother, *Thomas*, who, we have already said, originally formed the collection of ancient marbles at Wilton-house. He was one of the greatest men of his time, and held several of the first offices in the state. On his death, which happened January 22, 1732-3, his son, *Henry*, ninth Earl of Pembroke, succeeded, who displayed "not only a great taste, but genius for the arts."—"Besides his works at Wilton," says Lord Orford, "the New Lodge in Windsor Park, the Countess of Suffolk's house at Marble-hill, Twickenham, the Water-house in Lord Orford's park at Houghton, are incontestible proofs of Lord Pembroke's taste; it was more than taste, it was passion for the utility and honour of his country that engaged his lordship to promote and assiduously overlook the construction of Westminster-bridge by the ingenious Monsieur Labelye, a man who deserves more notice than this slight encomium can bestow." This distinguished nobleman died January 9, 1750-1, and was succeeded by his son, *Henry*, tenth Earl of Pembroke, who was constituted high-steward of Salisbury, and also lord-lieutenant and custos-rotulorum of Wiltshire. His death happened January 26, 1794, and the present nobleman, *George*, eleventh Earl of Pembroke, and eighth Earl of Montgomery, obtained his titles and estates. His lordship is a general in the army, knight of the garter, governor of Guernsey, lord-lieutenant of the county of Wilts, high-steward of Salisbury, and visitor of Jesus College, Oxford. In May, 1807, he was employed by government on a special embassy to the court of Vienna.

*PHILIP MASSINGER*, an eminent dramatic poet, was born either at Salisbury, or at Wilton-house and most probably at the latter. His father, who had passed many years in the service of the Earl of Pembroke, sent him to the University of Oxford, where he became

became a commoner of St. Alban's Hall, on the 14th of May 1602, in the eighteenth year of his age. In consequence of the death of his father he left the University abruptly, and being precluded, in all probability, by his tenets as a catholic, from benefiting from the kindness of his patrons, on his arrival in London he was driven partly by inclination, and partly by necessity, to dedicate his talents to the service of the stage.

To trace the history of Massinger from this period to his death, would only be to record the publication of his various dramas. For more than sixteen years (from 1606 to 1622) after his arrival in London, his efforts were confined to the assistance of Beaumont, Fletcher, and other cotemporary dramatists. In the last of these years the *Virgin Martyr* was given to the public, and from the appearance of that play, till the period of his death, his exertions as a writer for the stage were unremitted. His labours, however, great and multifarious as they were, scarcely secured him from absolute destitution; and a letter is still extant, in which a brother dramatist, an actor, and himself combine to supplicate in the most humble and pathetic language, the loan of four pounds of their own money. After a long and constant struggle with adversity, he died on the 17th of March 1640. He went to bed in good health, and, was found dead in the morning, in his own house on the Bankside, and his remains were interred in the church-yard of St. Saviour's, Southwark: and in the register of deaths, the memorial of his mortality accords too well with the obscure and humble passages of his life; "March 20, 1639-40, buried Philip Massinger, A STRANGER?"

All the writers of Massinger's life agree in representing him as a man of singular modesty, gentleness, and candor. His dramas are distinguished by copiousness and energy of diction; by artful construction and easy developement of fable; ingenuity of incident, and exact discrimination and consistency of character. He is sometimes humorous, but seldom witty: and chiefly excels in elaborate description, or lofty declamation: in harmony of verse, and rhythmical modulation he stands unrivalled. See  
a new

a new edition of the works of Massinger, with notes, &c. by William Giffard, Esq.

FUGGLESTONE ST. PETER, is a small village adjoining to Wilton, but separated from it by a branch of the river Willy. Here was anciently an hospital for poor leproous brethren and sisters, dedicated to St. Giles and St. Anthony. The foundation of this house is ascribed by tradition to Adelficia, second queen to Henry I.; but we are inclined to regard it as having been, originally at least, of much earlier origin. Leland tells us that King Ethelbert, who died in 827, was buried in this place, a circumstance which plainly points out the existence of some monastic institution here at that period.\* Adelficia has probably therefore been only the refounder of the first establishment, which she might also perhaps convert into an hospital. This house was early in the patronage of the mayor and commonalty of Wilton, by whom it was repaired at the time of the Dissolution, when its revenues were valued at 5l. 13s. 4d. per annum. It is still in existence, and supports a prior, or master, who must be a clergyman, and four poor people, who have a certain yearly allowance.† All the buildings, however, of the old house are destroyed, with the exception of the chapel, now turned into lodgings for the poor. In this chapel the remains of Queen Adelficia are said to be deposited; and over the door is a stone, with an inscription describing her to have been the foundress of the institution; but this is doubtless the work of a modern hand.

BEWERTON, a village situated about midway between Wilton and Salisbury, though in itself of little importance, deserves notice from its connection with several names eminent in the annals of literature. Besides the present rector, the Rev. William Coxe,

\* Leland's words are, "There is an hospitale of St. Giles, endowed with landes at Wilton towne ende. In hoc loco quiescit corpus St. Etheldredi regis West Saxonum, Martyris qui Anno Domini 827-13 die Aprilis per manus Danorum paganorum occubuit." Itinerary, Vol. III. fol. 96.

† The present prior is the Rev. William Coxe, Rector of Fugglestone, with

Coxe \*, whose works are well known to every general reader, Bemerton has been the residence of Bishop Walter Curle †, George Herbert ‡, and John Norris, all of whom were rectors of this parish, and were distinguished for their piety, their abilities, and

\* This gentleman may be ranked among the most useful and instructive travellers, and topographers of modern times. His travels through Poland, Russia, and Switzerland, have deservedly acquired him a very high reputation. His Tour through Monmouthshire, which is embellished with plates from drawings by Sir Richard Hoare, is likewise much esteemed for the mass of historical and biographical information it displays. The same character marks his Memoirs of Sir Robert Walpole, and his Life of his own predecessor, Norris. Mr. Coxe possesses a fine original portrait of Handel, by Denner; and another of Locke, by Richardson.

† Walter Curle was a prelate of great talents, and most beneficent character. The date and place of his birth are uncertain; but in 1628 we find him mentioned as Dean of Lichfield, and prolocutor to the convocation. He was successively Bishop of Rochester, Bath, and Wells, and Winchester; but lost all his preferments by the breaking out of the civil war, and died in needy circumstances, in 1647.

‡ George Herbert, (commonly called the divine Herbert) was the fifth son of Richard Herbert, Esq. of Montgomery Castle, where he was born in 1533. He was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and became public orator of that University, in the year 1619. Walton informs us he had hopes of obtaining the situation of secretary of state, but was disappointed by the death of his friends, the Duke of Richmond and the Marquis of Hamilton. On King James's demise, which happened soon after, he retired to his friends in Kent, and lived there, till he entered into holy orders, as it is said "with the special encouragement of King Charles I." In 1626 he was collated a prebend in the church of Lincoln; and in 1630, he married a lady nearly related to the Earl of Danby. About the same time he was presented to the rectory of Bemerton, where his conduct as a parish clergyman was most exemplary. At his own charge he repaired the church, and also rebuilt the parsonage-house, though he scarcely held his living five years, having died in 1633. His chief literary works were two poems; one of which intitled, "The Temple," was published immediately after his death, but the other intitled, "A Priest to the Temple," did not come out till 1632. These productions seem to have been much regarded at the time of their publication, and were even deemed worthy of being reprinted in 1809. Mr. Pope frequently read them for the same reason that Virgil read the works of

Ennius;

and their erudition. The two last were buried in this church; but the memory of Norris \* only is perpetuated by any monument or inscription.

On a rough piece of heathy land, to the west of MIDDLE-WOODFORD, is a small earthen work of a squarish form. The vallum is very slight; and the entrance is on the east side, whence issue a bank and ditch, which are lost in the vale below, but which seem to point towards a neighbouring eminence of considerable height, called Heale-Hill. On this hill Sir Richard Hoare discovered the *indicia* of a British settlement †, and also the traces of a very ancient entrenchment, in the shape of an irregular circle, and containing an area of about five acres in extent. From the appearance and position of this work, and the slightness of its ramparts, it is most likely one of those circles, which were appropriated by the Britons to religious, or judicial purposes. Within its area are a number of barrows, and there are also several others dispersed over the hill.

HEALE-HOUSE, whence this eminence derives its name, was formerly a seat of the Hyde family, and is remarkable as one of the places of King Charles the Second's concealment after the battle of Worcester. Leland, in his Itinerary, makes mention of a palace having formerly existed here belonging to the bishops of Salisbury, but no vestiges of such an edifice can now be traced.

#### GREAT-

\* Ennius; and their author was so much in esteem for his judgment with the great Lord Bacon, that the latter would not permit his own celebrated works to be printed before they had passed his examination. See Granger's Biographical History of England, Vol. II. p. 170. Walton's Lives by Zouch, 4to. 1796. British Biography.

\* This divine was a native of Albourne, or Auburn, in this county. Some account of him will therefore be given in our description of that place.

† "The lynchets are very decidedly marked on the declivity of this hill, and contrary to the custom of modern cultivation, run from top to bottom, and not along the sides of the hill. One of these lynchets differs from the rest, and apparently forms an elevated terrace of approach to the British village." Ancient Wiltshire, Vol. I. p. 215.



**GREAT-DURNFORD**, north from Upper-Woodford, deserves attention on account of its church, which is of very ancient architecture. The north and south doorways, and the font in particular, present curious and interesting specimens of what is commonly termed Saxon sculptural decoration. The church consists of one aisle and a chancel, with a semi-circular arch between them. Here are some tombs to the memory of different persons of the Yonge family, who possessed Little Durnford House.\* A long inscription commemorates *Colonel John Yonge*, who was member of Parliament for Old Sarum in 1683, and died in 1710. The font here is circular, and ornamented with a continued series of interesting arches, and other ornaments. Bishop Jewel's book in defence of his "*Apology for the Church of England*," ordered by Queen Elizabeth, King James, and Charles I. to be read and chained in all the churches in England, still exists here as a memorial of the bishop's polemical talents. In this parish is **DURNFORD HOUSE**, the property of the Earl of Malmsbury, and now occupied by his lordship's sister, Miss Harris. Many extensive plantations have been progressively made on this estate. To the east of the house, on the brow of a hill, is an extensive earthen work, commonly called *Ogbury-Camp*, but which we incline to think, with Dr. Stukeley and Sir Richard Hoare, ought rather to be regarded as a British *oppidum*, or place of residence, than as a military work. It is undoubtedly of very early construction, and differs from every other work we have hitherto described in being destitute of any fosse, the earth having been heaped up in the manner of a parapet, when dug away level at the bottom. The height of this vallum is thirty-three feet; and its circuit is one mile, one furlong, and fifty-five yards. The area within comprises sixty-two acres and a quarter, and is intersected by "many little banks carried straight, and meeting one another at right angles, square oblong parallels, and some oblique, as the meres and divisions between ploughed lands; yet it seems never

\* This seat and manor now belong to Edward Hinxman, Esq.

never to have been ploughed; and there is likewise a small squarish work, entrenched, no bigger than a large tent; these to me seem the distinction and divisions of the several quarters and lodgments of the people within; for I have, upon the downs in Dorsetshire, often remarked the like of too small a compass to be ploughed fields. This camp has an aspect very old, the prominent part of the rampart in many places quite consumed by time, though the steep remains perfect; one being the natural earth, the other factitious. I know not whether we ought to derive the name of it from the British *Og*, signifying the hurdles and pens they fence their cattle in with, which perhaps stood upon those meres, or little banks, to distinguish every man's property."\*

Such is the account given of this singular work by Stukeley, whose accuracy of description in this instance is highly commended by Sir Richard Hoare, though the latter considers the small square entrenchment to be of comparatively modern construction, and probably only designed for the protection of a clump of trees, which may have been planted here at a former time.

LAKE-HOUSE, the seat of the Rev. Edward Duke, is seated in a valley on the western bank of the Avon, in the parish of Wilsford. The house is a respectable and truly picturesque edifice, with bay windows, gables, yew hedges, terraces, &c. in the genuine style of the age when the former was erected, and the latter laid out. This was at the latter end of the sixteenth century. The present possessor, laudably attached to our national antiquities, is scrupulously careful in preserving every vestige of former times, that immediately belong to the demesne, or to the vicinity. His museum of British, Roman, and other reliques, is highly curious and interesting: and it is hoped that by further researches he may be enabled to develope many hidden facts,

and

\* Stukeley's Itinerary, I. 159.

and elucidate many traits of the arts and customs of our British ancestors.

The manor of Lake anciently formed part of the possessions of the guild, or fraternity of Carscombe, or Crascombe, in the county of Somerset. At the dissolution of that guild, in the first year of Edward VI. it became vested in the Crown, and was granted about five years afterwards to Robert Thomas, and Andrew Salter, merchant taylors in London, who transferred it to John Capelyn of Southampton. This person sold it in 1578, for the sum of 1000 marks, to George Duke, ancestor to the present proprietor.

In the immediate vicinity of Lake House are several tumuli, some of which have been opened by Mr. Duke, and their contents investigated. Among the relics obtained from one of them in the year 1806, were some small pieces of *bone*, which are polished, and were apparently stained, with different devices. "We might be led to suppose, by this circumstance, that the custom of casting lots existed among the Britons, and that these articles were appropriated to that purpose; or perhaps they might have been used, like the ancient *talus*, or *tessera*, for some kind of game. But in whatever light we view them, they must be considered as the greatest curiosities we have ever yet discovered; and as forming a slight progressive step towards language and civilization." \*

To the west of this group of barrows may be seen traces of a bank and ditch, which become stronger as they advance westward to the junction of the Devizes and Deptford roads, where they are lost in the arable lands, when pointing towards a British settlement on Winterbourne Stoke-Down. Two other lines of bank and ditch run parallel to each other in a south-east direction, and terminate at the site of another British village on the point of Down, immediately above Great-Durnford. One of these embankments has probably been a continuation of the bank and ditch

\* History of Ancient Wiltshire," Vol. I. p. 412.

ditch first mentioned, but their connection cannot now be ascertained.

### AMBRESBURY,

or AMESBURY, a small market town, situated in the valley of the river Avon, at the distance of seven miles from Salisbury, is a place of great antiquity, and is said by some ancient authors to have derived its name from Aurelius Ambrosius, a king, or emperor of the Britons, after the departure of the Romans. Others, however, assert that it was called *Pagus Ambri*, from Ambrius, a British monk, who is said to have founded a monastery here for three hundred monks, afterwards destroyed by the Saxon chief, Gurthrum; and this latter opinion is generally regarded as the more probable one, for all the early writers attest the existence of monastic establishment at this place, soon after the introduction of Christianity into Britain.\*

On the re-establishment of that work in the Saxon era, Amesbury seems to have attained considerable distinction, but only a few particulars of its history, during that period, have reached our times. In the reign of King Edgar, a synod was convened here to settle the disputes between the regular and secular clergy, which had previously been discussed in an assembly held at Calne, under the direction of the celebrated Dunstan; and in 995, Elfric was chosen Archbishop of Canterbury in this town. At the time of the Norman conquest it enjoyed many privileges, as appears from Domesday-book, where it is stated that Amesbury never was assessed, nor divided into hides

\* The author of "Magna Britannia" says it was originally built by Ambrius, and afterwards restored by Aurelius Ambrosius, when, by the assistance of Arthur he had beaten back the Saxons. This Ambrosius, according to Gildas and Bede, was of royal extraction, and is supposed by Camden to have been of the family of Constantine "who in the fourth consulship of Theodosius the younger, was for the sake of his name, and the hopes they built on it, declared emperor in Britain, and afterwards slain at Arles." Camden's Britannia, by Gough. Vol. I. p. 93.

hides \*. It has now, however, lost nearly all its importance. The houses are chiefly disposed in two irregular streets, and are mean in their appearance, and indifferently built. According to the population returns of 1811, the parish contains 178 houses, and 723 inhabitants. Here is a charity school, erected in 1715, for the education and clothing of fifteen poor boys, and an equal number of girls. This town suffered much by fire in 1753.

The parish church of Amesbury is an ancient and curious edifice, and is thought to have been attached to the abbey afterwards mentioned. It is built of stone and flint: and consists of of a nave, with a south aisle, a chancel, a transept, and a tower, rising from the centre. In consequence of repeated alterations and repairs, many of the ancient features have been defaced; but it still presents some parts which cannot fail to arrest the attention of the Architectural Antiquary. In the chancel, are eight tall, narrow lancet-shaped windows; with three other windows of large proportions, adorned with mullions and tracery. Near the altar is a niche in the north wall, with a bold canopy. The tower is raised on four lofty pointed arches, and the belfry is lighted by several small lancet-windows. In the nave and south transept are some curious specimens of sculptured brackets, or corbels; and beneath the eaves of the nave on the south side is a series of sculptured blocks. On the same side are some old windows with semicircular heads, now closed up. Attached to the west end is a fragment of an ancient door-way; but from its position it could never have formed an entrance to the present church. The *Font* is square, and consists of two parts: the uppermost nearly plain, and the lowermost adorned with blank arches. In the chancel is a small brass plate, inscribed to *Editha Matyn*, (Gough in Sep. Mon. writes Martyn) wife of Robert Matyn; she died in 1470.

#### AMESBURY-

\* "Rex tenet Amblesberie. Rex Edwardus tenuit. Nunquam geldavit nec hidata fuit." Wyndham's *Domesday*. Wiltshire, p. 20.

AMESBURY-HOUSE, or ABBEY, a seat of the late Duke of Queensberry, is situated close to the town, on its north western side \*. The present house was built by Mr. Webb, son-in-law to Inigo Jones, from designs by that great architect, and it was a favourite residence of the celebrated Duke and Duchess of Queensberry, under whose patronage, the poet Gay spent the happiest years of his life at this place. Several of his best pieces were written in this hospitable mansion, and were digested while he wandered along the banks of the Avon, which meanders through the gardens and pleasure-grounds. These, however, we suspect can have possessed few features congenial to the mind of the bard, as they were laid out with all that affectation of art, and disregard of nature, which characterized the taste of the seventeenth century.

During the life of the late duke, Amesbury House was inhabited for several years by a society of nuns from Louvain, in Flanders, who fled hither at the commencement of the French Revolution. They were of the Augustine order, and had full liberty to wear their proper habits, and to practice all the religious duties enjoined by their patron saint. This society was removed into Dorsetshire about the year 1800.

The present house is supposed to occupy the site of *Amesbury-Nunnery*, which appears to have been originally founded for Nuns of the benedictine order, by Elfrida, Alfritha, or Ethelfrida, the queen of Edgar, an Anglo-Saxon monarch. The establishment continued to prosper for some years, and the nuns remained faithful to their vows; but in the reign of King Henry II. having been convicted of some irregularities, and immoral conduct,

VOL. XV.—Nov. 1813. 2 A they

\* The whole of the Amesbury estate is now offered for public sale. Particulars of this, with a slight map have recently been printed; by which it appears that the estate comprises “the manors of Amesbury priory; with the manors of Dawburys and Souths, Comb's Court, and Countess Court, including an extensive fishery on the river Avon; together with the mansion of Amesbury Abbey, and upwards of 1190 acres of freehold land, on which *Stonehenge*, and other remarkable antiquities are situated. The Amesbury estate consists of about 5296 acres 3 roods and 6 perches; of which 331 acres 3 roods, and 26 perches being abbey lands, are tythe free.”

they were expelled the house, and distributed to different nunneries. The monarch, however, supplied their places by a prioress and twenty-four nuns, who were brought from Font-Everault, in Flanders, to which monastery this house was constituted a cell, and remained so for a considerable number of years.\* At length, however, it was made denizen, and again became an abbey of greater celebrity than at any former period. King John conferred upon it many important privileges, and confirmed all its former grants and possessions. Eleanor of Bretagne, whom that monarch confined for forty years in the Castle of Bristol, was buried here. Another Eleanor, wife to King Henry III. took the veil here, after her husband's death, and lived in the abbey till her decease in 1291, when her body was interred in the abbey-church, and her heart deposited in the church of the Grey Friars in London. The Princess Mary, daughter of Edward I. following the example of her grandmother, likewise "devoted herself to God" in this monastery, with fifteen young ladies, daughters of the most distinguished noblemen in the kingdom. The monarch himself being present at the ceremony of initiation, conducted the princess to the altar, and stood by her while she pronounced her vows of perpetual virginity, and gave up the fleeting pleasures of this world in the hope of eternal glory in the next. Many other distinguished persons took the veil here at a later period. In fine, Amesbury Abbey was one of the most celebrated, as well as one of the richest in England of those not included in the number of the mitred abbeys. It was surrendered in the thirty-second year of the reign of Henry VIII. at which period its religious inmates consisted of an abbess and thirty-four nuns, and its revenues were estimated at 495*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* per annum†. The building and site were granted a few months after its dissolution to Edward, Earl of Hertford. ‡

The manor or lordship of Amesbury was one of those conferred by

\* Hovedon. Script. Post Bedam. Anno 1177.

† So Dugdale, but Speed says they amounted to 558*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*

‡ The following curious document relative to this abbey was extracted from a manuscript in the Bodleian Library, Rawl. Post. 106.

"Costs

by the Conqueror on Edward de Saresbury, ancestor of the Longspee's, Earls of Salisbury. Margaret, daughter and heiress of William Longspee, carried it by marriage, to Henry de Lacy, who left an only daughter, afterwards married to Thomas, Earl of Lancaster. He having been slain in rebellion at Boroughbridge, his estates, and amongst others, this manor were forfeited to the Crown. Edward III. gave Amesbury to William de Montacute, whom he created Earl of Salisbury; but it seems soon after to have been in the possession of John, Earl of Warren, Surrey, and Strathern. In the reign of Richard II. it was the property of William Zouch, Lord Harrington, whose heirs alienated it to John, Duke of Bedford. At his death it descended to his uncle, King Henry VI. and continued annexed to the Crown for many years.

VERSPASIAN'S CAMP, as it is commonly called, is situated to the westward of Amesbury, and is intersected by the turnpike-road. It occupies the summit of an eminence, bounded on two sides by the river Avon, and is surrounded by a single ditch and vallum, enclosing an area of thirty-nine acres. The form of this

2 A 2

entrenchment

"Costs in the Eschequer of my Lady Abbess of Ambresburye for makinge quitte of here franchises, in the Cont. of Wyltes.

Impinis for striking owt ij tails of Pser in the recept.....	xij.d
Item to the Chamberlaines of Eschequer for joynynge of the same tayle.....	ij.s
Item to the secondarige of the pype for allowynge the same tayle	xixd
Item to the clerk of the pype for his fee.....	xixd
Item for iij warrants of atturnye for the pser and one for the ac- compte.....	ij.s
Item to fryars boxe.....	id
Item for the Quietus est.....	ij.s lijd
Sum	xijsh ix d

For the knowledgings of a recognisance in the chauncerye

Imprimus for the knowledginge .....	ij.s
Item for the enrolling vizt to the Mr. of the rolles iij.s and the clerk iij.s	liij.s
Item for the wrytyngs thereof .....	(blank in MS)
Item for the discharge thereof .....	xij.s



entrenchment resembles a scalene triangle, the narrowest angle of which is considerably rounded. Towards the western side, where additional works have been thrown up, the rampart is bold and perfect; but on that next to Amesbury it has been much mutilated in the formation of the pleasure-grounds attached to the Duke of Queensberry's mansion. There appears to have been two entrances, one on the north, and another on the south: the former of which is still entire. From the position and construction of this encampment, it is evidently not of Roman, but of British origin; though it might afterwards be occupied for a time by the forces of the Roman general and emperor, whose name it bears; and perhaps also by the Danes and Saxons. To one or other of these later occupants may be attributed the exterior ramparts and ditches, which are of a stronger and more decided character than the interior and simpler works of the Britons. The area of this entrenchment is planted and fancifully disposed in avenues, walks, &c. near the principal of which is the appearance of a barrow, but its figure is greatly mutilated.\*

## STONEHENGE,

two miles directly west of Amesbury, is an ancient, and certainly very extraordinary monument of a remote age. From the singularity of its structure, the mystery attending its age and pristine appropriation, its conspicuous situation, and the numerous dissertations that have been published respecting it, this "*antique ruin*," has excited more popular curiosity and wonderment than any other object of antiquity in Great Britain. Whilst the learned have at once amused and bewildered themselves with theoretical speculations concerning its origin and uses, the vulgar have contemplated its remains with superstitious amazement and awe. Stonehenge has long been regarded as "the wonder of the west;" and every one who visits it, or talks of it from the vague re-

- ports

\* Hoare's Ancient Wiltshire, - Vol. I, p. 160.

ports of others, seems willing to reiterate the "twice told tale." Hence the philosophical antiquary is almost precluded from exercising a little common sense and discrimination on the subject. In order to secure popular sanction and approbation, he must partly subscribe to popular prejudices; mankind seem rather to delight in romance than genuine history; and we all know that delusion and mystery are powerful auxiliaries in the machinery of the former: as independence and intrepidity are however the supporters of the latter, we shall adopt them on the present, as on most other occasions. Influenced by this feeling, if we fail to prove Stonehenge to be truly wonderful, and the work of miraculous powers, we shall still shew that it is an object of high interest and curiosity to the genuine antiquary. Though the precise era of its erection cannot be demonstrated, nor the peculiar rites, ceremonies, and customs of the people who raised it clearly defined, yet we are disposed to believe that its history is less fabulous than has been generally represented. It is true, we know nothing of the rude mechanic, or architect, who designed it; and it is equally true, that we are not much better informed of the private life and character of the immortal Shakspeare: as our knowledge, therefore, is so limited respecting the great dramatist of the sixteenth century, we ought not to be surprised at our total ignorance of the former. Still, however, the works of both are remaining, though each in a mutilated state; and from these we must deduce our inferences, and found our opinions. In the writings of the one we catch occasional glimpses of the author; and in the peculiar formation of the other, compared with corresponding structures, we are presented with important lights to dispel some of the mists and darkness of remoteness. Let us, therefore, first view Stonehenge as it is, and then endeavour to ascertain what it has been.

At a distance this monument appears only a small, trifling object; for its bulk and character are lost in the vastness of the open space around it. On a nearer approach, and closer examination, it commonly fails to astonish, or even to satisfy the stranger. People gene-

rally visit it with exaggerated prepossessions: and imagination always exceeds reality. As a mere object of sight, Stonehenge is not calculated to make a strong or extraordinary impression on the mind of the common observer. It must be viewed with the eye of the antiquary and artist; and contemplated by a mind fully stored with historical knowledge, to be properly understood and appreciated. To such a person it cannot fail to afford consummate interest and pleasure.

In various parts of England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, Brittany, Denmark, &c. are to be found several monuments, or temples, of upright stones. Some of these consist of a single circle, and others of complex circles; but this of Stonehenge has a distinct and peculiar character, and is, we believe, unlike any other monument. Many of the stones of this temple have been squared, or hewn by art; and on the top of the outer circle has been raised a continued row of squared stones, attached to the uprights by mortises and tenons, i. e. regular cavities in the horizontal stones, and projecting knobs on those that stand.

At present Stonehenge is a ruin: an apparently confused heap of standing and fallen stones. The original arrangement of these, however, may be readily understood: for by the position and situation of those still erect, and the prostrate members, we are enabled to judge of the number and site of those which have been removed. The whole consisted of two circular, and two elliptical rows of upright stones, with horizontal stones lying on the outer circle in a continued order, all around; and five imposts or horizontal stones, on ten uprights of the third row. The whole is surrounded by a ditch and vallum of earth, connected with which are three other stones. The vallum does not exceed fifteen feet in height, and is interior to the ditch.---Through this line of circumvallation there appear to be three entrances; but Sir Richard Hoare thinks that one of them only originally belonged to the work. This is placed on the north-east side, and is decidedly marked by a bank and ditch, called the *Avenue*, which leads directly from it, and separates into two branches,

branches, at the distance of a few hundred yards. Approaching Stonehenge by this avenue, the attention is first attracted by an immense rude stone, called "*The Friar's Heel*," which is now in a leaning position, and measures about sixteen feet in height. The use of this stone is of course totally unknown; though many offices have been assigned to it by conjecture. Just within the entrance, through the vallum, is another stone, which lies prostrate on the ground. This has been supposed by those who consider Stonehenge as a religious monument, to have been the stone on which the victims were slaughtered; but, as Sir Richard Hoare justly observes, this hypothesis is completely overthrown by the fact that three sides of the stone bear the same appearance, and the same marks of tools as the large uprights of the work itself, and has evidently once been in a similar position. In length it measures twenty-one feet two inches, of which three feet six inches appear to have been formerly underground, when it stood upright. Its distance from the stone last-mentioned is exactly one hundred feet; and it is nearly equally distant from the outside of the outermost circle of the monument. Each impost of this row has two mortises in it to correspond with two tenons on the tops of the vertical stones. The imposts were connected together in such a manner as to form a continued series of architraves. The uprights in this circle differ from each other in their forms and sizes; but their general height is from thirteen to fifteen feet, and their circumference nearly eighteen feet. The space between them also varies a little; that between the entrance stones is five feet, being somewhat wider than in the others. The circumference of this circle is stated by Sir Richard Hoare to be about three hundred feet; and the number of upright stones it originally contained at thirty, of which seventeen are still standing; but there are now no more than six imposts. At the distance of eight feet three inches from this outer circle is an interior row which, it appears, consisted, in its original state, of forty upright stones. Wood states their amount at twenty-nine only; and asserts that they were formerly covered with imposts.

Others call their number thirty. The stones of this circle are much smaller, and more irregular in their shapes than those of the outermost one, and also differ from them in species. The number standing is only eight; but there are remains of twelve others lying on the ground. A few particulars respecting this circle may claim attention. Dr. Stukeley, in his ground plan of Stonehenge, has placed the two stones, at the entrance, a little within the range of the others, observing, "that the two stones of the principal entrance of this circle correspondent to those of the outer circle are broader and taller, and set at a greater distance from each other, being rather more than that of the principal entrance in the outer circle. It is evident, too, that they are set somewhat more inward than the rest: so as that their outward face stands in the line that mark the inner circumference of the inner circle." This remark, says Sir Richard Hoare, is just, but he doubts whether the deviation in these two stones from the line was originally intended. A stone lying near the above, and apparently belonging to this circle, resembles the impost of a small trilithon, and most probably gave rise to the assertion of Wood, that all the stones had imposts; and, it has also suggested to the author of "Ancient Wiltshire," a query whether there might not have been another in the vacant space on the opposite side to correspond with it.

Within the circles just described are arranged the two elliptical rows of stones, the outermost of which constitutes the grandest portion of Stonehenge. This is not a perfect ellipsis, but rather two-thirds of that figure, being open at one end. It was formed by five distinct pairs of *trilithons*, or two large upright stones, with a third laid over them as an impost. The largest trilithon was placed in the centre opposite to the entrance, and measured, when standing, exclusive of the impost, twenty-one feet six inches in height: that next it, on each side, was about seventeen feet two inches: but the extremes were not more than sixteen feet three inches. Thus we perceive a progressive rise in the height of the trilithons of this ellipsis from east to west;

west; and a degree of regularity pervading its structure above what appears in other parts of this monument. Besides, the stones are evidently more regular in their shapes, and carefully formed, than those in the outer circle. The leaning stone of the largest trilithon is formed with more critical symmetry than either of the others. It is nine feet out of the perpendicular, and certainly "constitutes one of the most picturesque features of the building, by breaking the uniformity of the upright lines."

*"Jam jam capsura cadentique  
Imminet assuulilis."*

Part of the trilithon, of which this stone was one of the uprights, fell many centuries ago, as did likewise that furthest from it on the left; but the one between them only gave way on the 3d of January, 1797.\* The two others on the south-eastern side remain entire.

The interior oval which next claims our attention, consisted, according to Stukeley, of 19 uprights, without imposts; but their original number is differently stated by other authors. These stones are taller and better shaped than those in the corresponding circle, "and

\* An account of this "remarkable era" in the history of Stonehenge, was written by Dr. Maton, and printed in the *Archæologia*, Vol. XIII. from which we extract the following particulars: "This trilithon fell outwards nearly in a western direction, the impost, in its fall, striking against one of the stones of the outer circle, which, however, has not thereby been driven very considerably out of its perpendicularity. The lower ends of the two uprights, or supporters, being now exposed to view, we are enabled to ascertain the form into which they were hewn. They are not right angled, but bevelled off in such a manner, that the stone which stood nearest to the upper part of the aditum, is twenty two feet in length on one side, and not quite twenty on the other; the difference with the corresponding sides of the fellow supporter is still greater, one being as much as twenty-three feet, and the other scarcely nineteen feet in length. The breadth of each is (at a medium) seven feet nine inches, and the thickness three feet; the impost, which is a perfect parallelipedon, measures sixteen feet in length, four feet six inches in breadth; and two feet six inches in thickness."

"and incline to a pyramideal form." The most perfect among them, according to the measurement of Sir Richard Hoare, "is seven feet and a half high, twenty-three inches wide at the base, and decreases to twelve inches at the top." Another of them is remarkable, as having a groove from top to bottom, and as being bevelled off "almost to an angle on the inner side." For what purpose the groove has been formed it is impossible to conjecture; and it is equally difficult to say whether the hollow has been formed by nature or by art.

The *altar-stone* as it is usually called, occupies the interior of this oval, and may be regarded as the centre, or key-stone of the whole temple. It measures fifteen feet in length, and is almost covered by the two fallen stones of the great trilithon.

Two other stones belonging to this monument remain to be noticed. These are situated close to the vallum, and within it: one on the south-east side, and the other on the north-west side. The former measures nine feet in height, and has fallen from its base backwards on the vallum; but the latter is not more than four feet high; and both are rude and unhewn. Two small hollows likewise appear adjoining the bank which merit particular attention, in a description of Stonehenge. Dr. Stukeley considers them to have been the sites of two stone vases; and the cavities around them are conjectured to have received the blood of victims. The fallacy of the Doctor's opinions, however, on this subject, is sufficiently proved by the investigations of Sir Richard Hoare, who, upon digging into these barrows, found one to contain a simple interment of bones. The latter antiquary further remarked a very curious circumstance relative to this sepulchral hollow, which is, that "the vallum of the agger surrounding the work has been evidently curtailed" in the formation of the tumulus; whence he adds, "we may fairly infer that this sepulchral barrow existed on the plain, I will not venture to say before the construction of Stonehenge, but probably before the ditch was

thrown

thrown up ; and I scarcely know how to separate the era of the one from the other."

Of the four *Plans* of Stonehenge in its original state, furnished to the public by Inigo Jones, Smith, Stukeley, and Wood, those of the two last mentioned approach, in our opinion, nearest to correctness. They differ only in two particulars, viz. in the supposed amount of stones which formed the inner circle, and in the figure of the cell, or sanctum. The first Stukeley rightly makes forty, while Wood makes it only thirty. This is also the number stated by Smith, but Inigo Jones limits them to twenty-nine. The same architect absurdly, and to suit his own hypothesis, imagines that the two innermost compartments have been originally hexagonal, a figure which it is impossible the outer one can ever have assumed, otherwise the great trilithons now standing must have altered their positions in the lapse of ages. Wood considers them as having been disposed when entire, in the form of a rounded arch, the columns of which receded from each other at their bases. Smith, on the other hand, inclines the bases of the great compartment nearer to each other, and supposes two small trilithons to have occupied the opening between them. Stukeley differing from all these opinions, considers both compartments to have been a regular oval, or rather three-fourths of that figure, and this view of the subject we incline to think the most probable ; only he should have represented the impost of the central trilithon as lying in a straight line between its uprights, and not have given either it, or the three central stones of the small compartment a curved appearance. In short, he should have rendered each compartment elliptical, or flattened at the extremity. This was indeed absolutely necessary with regard to the great compartment, as its peculiar trilithon construction precludes the possibility of its form having been an oval ; for in that case the impost of the central trilithon must either have been bent, or no such trilithon can have existed.

From the above statement the reader will perceive that we estimate



estimate the total number of stones, of which Stonehenge was composed in its complete state, at one hundred and thirty-nine. Of these the outer circle contained thirty; the second, or inner circle forty; the first ellipsis fifteen, and the second ellipsis nineteen; the remaining five are the altar-stone, the three stones adjoining the agger, and the large stone in the avenue, which Mr. Carter characterizes as presenting to the imagination "a lively idea of a venerable Druidical figure with a flowing beard, in an attitude of devotion, bending towards the sacred pile." The distance from this stone to that lying at the entrance is exactly a hundred feet, which is likewise the distance of the prostrate stone from the exterior line of the outer circle. It is also the distance from the vallum to the same line, as well as the extent of the diameter of the outer stone circle; so that the diameter of the whole area, within the vallum, is about three hundred feet. The ditch measures three hundred and sixty-nine yards in circumference, and about fifteen feet in the slope on the scarp side. This ditch is interior to the vallum, and thence it is properly inferred that the area was not of a military character: the vallum was the boundary of the sacred inclosure; and it is most probable that the populace was not admitted within its sacred line.

*Natural Quality of the Stones.* Those of the outer circle, and outer ellipsis, with the stone in the avenue, and those adjoining the vallum, are all "of a pure, fine grained, compact sandstone," and only differ a little in their colour; some of them being white, and others inclining to yellow.\* The second circle, and the small oval consist of "a fine grained grüinstein," interspersed with black hornblende, feldspar, quartz, and chloritt, excepting four in the circle; one of which is a siliceous schistus, another an argillaceous schistus, and the others hornstone with small specks of feldspar, and pyrites. The slab, or altar-stone is different from all these, being

\* These stones resemble, precisely in their quality, the grey-weathered, and numerous other detached masses, which lie on the surface of the Downs, in the vicinity of Avebury and Marlborough.

being a kind of "grey cos, a very fine grained calcareous sandstone," which strikes fire with steel, and contains some minute spangles of silver mica.

Having thus furnished the reader with a familiar account of this monument in its original and present state, it is also our wish to satisfy his curiosity respecting its primary appropriation and purposes. In doing this it will be necessary to detail the hypothetical opinions, and conjectures of the oldest writers, as well as those of a more recent date.

The earliest mention of Stonehenge occurs in the writings of Nennius, who lived in the eighth century. He narrates the story of the massacre of four hundred and sixty British nobles at a conference between King Vortigern and Hengist, general of the Saxons, at or near the spot on which our monument is situated, and attributes its erection to the Britons, who thereby endeavoured to perpetuate the memory of that tragical event.\* The historical Triads of the Welsh also refer its origin to the same cause, and relate that it was constructed by Merlin, at the desire of Aurelius Ambrosius,† the successor of Vortigern, after he had punished the perfidy of Hengist. This is likewise the account of Walter de Mapes, a Welsh chronicler, who is very circumstantial in his narrative, the purport of which we deem it advisable to quote.

"After Emrys (i. e. Ambrosius) had tranquillized every place, he made a journey to Salisbury (i. e. Sarum) to behold the graves of those whom Hengistyr had caused to be slain of the British. At that time three hundred monks formed a community

\* Vido Ante, p. 8.

† The name and history of *Ambrosius*, or *Emrys Wladig*, as the Welsh write it, seems intimately connected with this district. Sir Richard Hoare conjectures, that the modern Ambresbury derived its name from the "Maen Ambres, or Petre Ambrosia, i. e. holy stones:" and it is equally probable that the British monarch obtained his surname of *Ambrosius* from the same monument. All the ancient Welsh writers identify the king with the place; and the analogy of the name is clear and intelligible to every reader.

in the monastery of *Ambri Mount*; for so it was called, because it was founded by a person named *Ambri*. And *Emrys* was grieved to see that spot devoid of every mark of honour; so he summoned to him all the stone-masons and carpenters in Britain, to erect a trophy which should be an eternal memorial round that sepulture. But after they had assembled together their ingenuity failed them; thereupon *Tramor*, Archbishop of *Caer-Llion*, drew near, and thus spoke to *Emrys*: 'My Lord cause thou to come before thee *Merdin* (*Merlin*) the bard of *Gortheyrn*, for he is able to invent a wonderful structure, through his skill, to be of eternal duration.' So *Merdin* was brought to *Emrys*; and the king was joyful to see him; and *Emrys* desired him to foretell the events that were to happen in this island. But *Merdin* replied: "It is not right to declare those things except when there is a necessity; and were I, on the contrary, to speak of them, the spirit that instructs me would depart, when I should stand in need of it." Upon that the king would not press him farther, but enquired of him how he could invent a fair and lasting work over that spot. Thereupon *Merdin* advised a journey to Ireland to the place where stood the *Cor-y-Cawri*, or the circle of the giants on the mountain of *Cilara*. For thereon he said, are stones of an extraordinary quality, of which nobody has any knowledge; for they are not to be obtained by might nor by strength, but by art, and were they at this place in the state they are there, they would stand to all eternity. So *Emrys* said, laughingly, by what means can they be brought from thence? *Merdin* replied, laugh not, because I speak only seriousness and truth; those stones are mystical, and capable of producing a variety of cures; they were originally brought thither by giants from the extremities of Spain; and they placed them in their present position. The reason of their bringing them was, that when any of them was attacked by disease, they used to make a fomentation in the midst of the stones, first laying them with numerous which they poured into the fomentation; and through the vicinities obtained health from the disease that might affect them, for

for they put herbs in the fomentation; and those healed their wounds. When the Britons heard of the virtues of those stones, immediately they set off to bring them. Uthyr Pendragon being commissioned to be their leader, taking 15,000 armed men with him; Merdin also was sent as being the most scientific of his contemporaries. At that time Gillamori reigned in Ireland, who, on hearing of their approach, marched against them with a great army, and demanded the object of their errand. Having learned their business, he laughed, saying, 'It is no wonder to me that a feeble race of men have been able to ravage the isles of Britain, when its natives are so silly as to provoke the people of Ireland to fight with them about stones.' Then they fought fiercely, and numbers were slain on both sides, until at length Gillamori gave way, and his men fled. Then Merdin said, "Exert your utmost skill to carry the stones," but it availed them not. Merdin then laughed, and without any labour but by the effect of science, he readily brought the stones to the ships. So they then brought them to Mount Ambri. Then Emrys summoned to him all the chiefs and graduated scholars of the kingdom, in order, through their advice, to adorn that place with a magnificent ornament. Thereupon they put the crown of the kingdom upon his head, celebrated the festival of Whitsuntide for three days successively; rendered to all in the island their respective rights; and supplied his men in a becoming manner with gold, silver, horses, and arms. So when every thing was prepared Emrys desired Merdin to elevate the stones as they were in Cilara; and this he accomplished. Then every body confessed that ingenuity surpassed strength."

Jeffery, of Monmouth, is another monkish historian, or chronicler, who gives, with some slight variation, a similar account of the origin of Stonehenge. The same story is also noticed by some other authors about the same era, and particularly by Giraldus Cambrensis; who further tells us, that during his tour through Ireland, he "saw, with his own eyes," an immense monument of stones on the plains of Kildare, exactly corresponding in appearance

pearance and construction with that of Stonchenge.\* Henry of Huntingdon calls this structure one of the wonders of Britain; but disbelieving the story of Merlin, candidly confesses that no one can devise by what means, or for what purpose, such a work could have been erected.

Camden, our great antiquary, characterizes this monument as an "insana substructio," or a wild structure. His description of it is so extremely defective, that we doubt much if he ever saw it. On the question of its origin and uses he forbears to give any opinion. He notices, however, the ancient tradition of its being the work of Merlin; and adds, that others say the Britons raised it as a magnificent sepulchre for Ambrosius on the spot where he was slain in battle, that he might be covered by a public work, which should exist, to all eternity, an altar to valor.†

Such is the scanty information which certain old writers, commonly called historians, furnish relative to this very curious relic of ancient times. That the whole is literally correct no person of common judgment can reasonably affirm; but the possibility, we would almost say the probability, that the Welch fable embraces some of the links which may lead to truth, ought to render modern enquirers critically cautious in its investigation before they reject it as entirely false. There are few traditions, or historical romances, we believe, which do not contain, in their composition, the elements of genuine history, though these may be so saturated with fictitious ingredients, that their nature can only be ascertained by a strict analysis. This test, therefore, should be assiduously applied in every possible form; and even should our attempts

\* Sir Richard Hoare, who visited the plains of Kildare in his tour through Ireland, says, he never saw a spot more suitable for a monument like Stonehenge, and regrets he did not examine it with minute attention. He thinks the site of the temple could be discovered even at this day, if it really existed here, which he thinks can scarcely be questioned, judging from the usual accuracy of the ancient tourist.

† Camden's *Britannia*, 1600, 4to. Edit.

attempts at decomposition prove abortive, we should still persevere in research, and endeavour to ascertain the true basis, by the fertile resources of analogy and comparison. We offer these remarks, from observing that most modern writers have thrown aside every item of historical record and traditional evidence in their dissertations on Stonehenge, and have built their theories concerning it on foundations suggested by speculation only. Of these theories, that of *Inigo Jones* first demands our attention, as being, in publication, anterior to any with which we are acquainted. The work of this celebrated architect was undertaken at the desire of King James I. who commanded the "author to produce, of his own practice in architecture, and experience in antiquities abroad, what possibly he could discover concerning this of Stonehenge." Jones did not, however, live to complete the proposed work : but his son-in-law, Webb, finished and laid it before the public, in one small folio volume, with a portrait of the author, and several plates, A. D. 1655. In this volume he endeavours to shew that Stonehenge is a *temple of the Romans, dedicated to Cælus* : and that it was raised at a period when that people "had settled the country under their own empire ; and, by the introduction of foreign colonies, had reduced the natural inhabitants unto the society of civil life, by training them up in the liberal sciences." Unfortunately for Jones's theory, he has committed palpable errors in the form and arrangement of the stones ; and thereby rendered all his reasonings, descriptions, and inferences untenable and untrue. Besides, we cannot persuade ourselves that the Romans would ever erect a temple on this spot, so greatly dissimilar to all their other public edifices. On this opinion and dissertation it would be folly to waste an argument, or detain the reader.

Jones's work was succeeded, in 1663, by an answer and dissertation from the pen of *Dr. Charleton*, who first exposes the fallacy of his opponent, and then starts a new theory. He contends that Stonehenge was indubitably erected by *Danes* : but this opinion is at once destroyed by the historical fact, that the mo-

nument in question existed long before any Danish army had settled in England. Nennius, whom we have already mentioned to have been the first author who notices Stonehenge, wrote anterior to the year 800, whereas the Danes had not then entered Wiltshire.

Dr. Charlton's Dissertation called forth a voluminous vindication of Jones's hypothesis, by his editor, *Mr. Webb*, folio, 1665, in whose work dullness, sophistry, mistatement, and prolixity are the most conspicuous features. Indeed, we have seldom read a more absurd or tedious volume on a subject so fraught with interest.

*Aylott Sammes* was the next writer who produced a particular treatise on Stonehenge. After recapitulating the preceding opinions respecting it, he remarks "why may not these giants (alluding to the appellation of *Chorea Gigantum*, given to our monument) be the Phœnicians; and the art of erecting these stones, instead of the stones themselves, brought from the furthestmost parts of Africa, the known habitations of the Phœnicians." The suggestion here offered certainly possessed some degree of plausibility; but we have unfortunately no evidence from history either that the Phœnicians used such temples, or that they planted permanent colonies in any part of England.

*Bishop Gibson*, in his edition of Camden's *Britannia*, published in 1694, combats the opinions of Jones and Charlton, and concludes with observing, that "one need make no scruple to affirm that it (Stonehenge) is a British monument;" since it does not appear that any other nation had so much footing in this

\* Aubrey, who wrote his "*Monumenta Britannica*" about 20 years before Bishop Gibson published his edition of Camden, adopts the same view of the subject. This work was prepared for the press, but has never yet been printed. It furnishes much curious information relative to the antiquities of Wiltshire. The cause of the partial fall of the Leaning Stone is here attributed to the researches made in the year 1620, by George, Duke of Buckingham, when King James was at Wilton, "did cause the middle of Stonehenge to be digged, and this under digging was the cause of the falling downe,

this kingdom, as to be authors of such a rude, and yet magnificent pile." The learned Prelate is followed in the same opinion by most succeeding writers,\* though they differ from each other as to the probable period of its origin, and the precise purposes for which it was designed.

*Dr. Stukeley*, more fanciful than correct in his reasonings, attributes it to the Druids; but, instead of resting his theory upon solid British ground, he must needs call in the assistance of the Tyrean Hercules, to do greater honour to the structure.

*Wood*, whose plans we have already noticed, is of opinion that "it was a temple erected by the British Druids, about an hundred years before the Christian era."

*William Cooke, M. A.* in a treatise entitled "An Enquiry into the Patriarchal and Druidical Religion, Temples," &c. supposes Stonehenge to have been a place held sacred by the Druids, and appropriated to the meeting of great assemblies on civil or religious accounts; and adds, "the world does not afford a nobler spot. Its situation is upon a hill in the midst of an extended plain, in the centre of the southern part of the kingdom, covered with numberless herds and flocks of sheep, in which respect the employment, and the plain itself are patriarchal; where the air is perfectly salubrious; and the yielding turf lies as the surface of a bowling-green. From almost every adjoining eminence the prospect is open into Hampshire and Dorsetshire, and takes in all the lofty hills between Marlborough and Sandy Lane, sustaining the long range of Wandsdike, and the mother church of Abury."

*Mr. Smith*, whose work on Stonehenge appeared in 1770, after giving an account of the opinions of Jones, and others, with copious extracts, and a minute description of the monument itself,

2 B 2

says,

downe, or recumbency of the great stone there twenty-one foote long."—Stonehenge was then the property of a Mr. Newdick, who refused to take any sum for it from the duke, who was extremely anxious to buy it.

\* In a work published at Hanover, 1720, under the title of *Septentrionales Antiquitates*, by George Keyser, it is attributed to the Danes or Anglo-Saxons.



says, that he considers it to have been of Druidical origin, and erected as well for the purposes of astronomical observation, as of religious ceremonial.

*King*, in his "*Munimenta Antiqua*," conjectures that this monument was constructed in the very latest ages of Druidism, while that religion was yet struggling against the overwhelming tide of Christianity. With more of fanaticism than historical discrimination, this gentleman, however, reprobates the subject, the persons, and their customs. Every object, not purely Christian, was to him "an abomination," and excited very strong emotions of censure and reprobation in his mind.

Mr. *Davies*, the learned author of "*Celtic Researches*," and of the "*Mythology, &c. of the British Druids*," enters more profoundly than perhaps any other author, into the question respecting the origin and appropriation of Stonehenge. He supposes that this structure, and Silbury-hill, which will be described in the sequel, are two of the three works alluded to in a Welch Triad, as constituting the greatest labours of the island of Britain: i. e. "lifting the stone of Ketti;—Building the work of Emrys;—and Piling the Mount of the assemblies." That Stonehenge is really a Druidical structure, the same learned writer further remarks, "is evident, from the language in which it was described, and the great veneration in which it was held by the primitive bards; those immediate descendants, and avowed disciples of the British Druids. As the 'Great Sanctuary of the Dominion,' or metropolitan temple of our heathen ancestors, so complex in its plan, and constructed upon such a multitude of astronomical calculations, we find it was not exclusively dedicated to the *Sun*, the *Moon*, *Saturn*, or any other individual object of superstition; but it was a kind of *Pantheon*, in which all the Arkite and Sabian divinities of British theology were supposed to have been present: for here we perceive *Noe* and *Hu*, the deified patriarch; *Elphin* and *Rheiddin*, the sun; *Eseye*, *Isis*; *Kid*, *Ceres*, with the cell of her sacred fire; *Llywy*, *Proserpine*; *Gwyddon*, *Hermes*; *Budd*, *Victory*; and several others."\*

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\* *Davies's Mythology and Rites of the British Druids*, &c. p. 305.

As to the precise date of Stonehenge Mr. Davies says nothing definitively, but remarks it was most likely of later origin than the introduction of the Helio-Arkite superstition, which is traditionally said to have been of foreign growth, and to have come by the way of Cornwall, and therefore probably from the tin merchants. Its being mentioned by the Bard Aneurin, in his poem of Gododin, as existing previous to the massacre by Hengist, is justly remarked to be a decided evidence of its not having been erected to commemorate that event, "but that on the contrary it was a monument of venerable antiquity in the days of Hengist; and that its peculiar sanctity influenced the selection of the spot for the place of conference between the British and Saxon princes. It is equally clear that the sacred building did not receive its name of Gwaith-Emrys, from Emrys, or Ambrosius, a prince who fought with Hengist; but that on the other hand it communicates to him its own name, as he was president and defender of the Ambrosial Stones."\*

This learned writer further mentions a passage in the Greek historian, Diodorus Siculus, describing a round temple dedicated to Apollo, which Mr. Davies concludes to have been situated in Britain, and to have been most likely our monument of Stonehenge. The substance of the Grecian author is: "Among the writers on Antiquity, Hecataeus, and some others, relate that there is an island in the ocean opposite to Celtic Gaul, and not inferior in size to  
2 B 3 Sicily,

\* In a preceding page we have suggested the same idea as to the appellation, Ambrosius, and are happy to find our opinion supported by such high authority as Mr. Davies. Upon consideration, however, some objections occur to this view of the subject, which have certainly great weight. It is difficult to conceive that Aurelius, who is represented as a Christian prince, and the restorer of Christianity in the west and south of England, should take his surname from a heathen or Druidical temple. It may perhaps therefore be more consonant with truth to suppose that he received the name of Ambrosius from his pious exertions in favour of "the true faith," and not from any relation to Stonehenge, which, however, might also have been called "Pentre Ambrosia," from its being appropriated to holy purposes.

Sicily, lying towards the north, and inhabited by Hyperborci, who are so called because they live more remote from the north wind. The soil is excellent and fertile; and the harvest is made twice in the same year.\* Tradition says that Latona was born here, and therefore Apollo is worshipped in preference to any other deity; and because the inhabitants celebrate him daily with continued songs of praise, and pay him the highest adoration, they are considered as the priests of Apollo, to whom a magnificent *precinct* is allotted, and a remarkable *temple of a round form*, and adorned with many votive offerings. The city is also dedicated to this deity; many of its inhabitants are musicians, who, striking upon their harps within the temple, chaunt sacred hymns to their god, and honourably extol his actions. The government of the city, and the care of the temple, are entrusted to the Boreadæ, the descendants of Boreas, who inherit this government by an uninterrupted line of succession."

Mr. Maurice, in his "Indian Antiquities," forms a similar conclusion from the above passage with Mr. Davies, and further remarks, that in his opinion the Celtic deity, *Bel*, is identified with Apollo;† and says, that the first name of Britain, after it was peopled, was *Vel Ynys*, or the Island of *Bel*. He also supposes "that the battle of *Hen-Vclen*, mentioned in the song of the bard Taliesin, alludes to one fought near Stonehenge. The massacre of the Britons in that neighbourhood is frequently alluded to by the Welsh bards. In song XII. of the Gododin, by Aneurin, we find the *stone cell of the sacred fire* noticed; and in song XV. we find also *the great stone fence of the common sanctuary*. In the song of another Welch bard, Cuthelin, we also

\* The island here mentioned could be no other than England or Ireland. If the existence of a monument similar to Stonehenge, on the plains of Kil-dare, could be considered as undoubted, we should prefer to think that Hecatzæus intended to designate Ireland. This, however, would not affect the antiquity of Stonehenge.

† Petrosus, in his Lexicon, says, "*Belenus erat idem qui Apollo*."—*Belenus*, (i. e. *Bel*) was the same with *Apollo*

also find allusions made to Stonehenge, in the words *Maur Cor Cycooth*, the great circle, or Sanctuary of the dominion.”\*

The Rev. James Ingram, in his “*Inaugural Lecture on the Utility of the Saxon Literature*,” has suggested a new idea relative to Stonehenge. He considers it as the “Heathen Burial-place; and the *cursus* adjoining, as the Hippodrome, on which the goods of the deceased were run for at the time of burial.” This notion is certainly curious; and from the amazing number of barrows in the vicinity of our temple, seems to rest on a better foundation than mere fancy. It is conveyed in a note to “*The Geography of Europe*, by King Alfred;” where it is mentioned that it was a custom with the Estonians to burn the bodies of their deceased friends with great pomp and festivity, and to institute races for their property.†

Another novel opinion relative to the construction of Stonehenge, is advanced by the late Mr. *Cunnington*, in the history of Ancient Wiltshire. It is grounded on the difference in quality and size between the stones of the great circle and ellipsis, and those of the smaller ones. “In considering the subject,” says Mr. *Cunnington*, “I have been led to suppose that Stonehenge has been erected at different eras: that the original work consisted of the outward circle, and its imposts, and the inner oval, or large trilithons; and that the smallest circle and oval, of inferior stones, were raised at a later period; for they add nothing to

2 B 4

the

\* History of “*Ancient Wiltshire*, Vol. I. p. 157.—The author of this work coincides entirely with the opinions of Mr. *Davies*, from whom he has clearly derived the etymology of the word *Ambresbury*. Its high antiquity, he adds, is corroborated by the fact, that many of the barrows around must have been formed subsequent to the temple, though probably before the arrival of the Romans in Britain. He thinks that Stonehenge must have been to the Britons what *Mecca* is now to the Mahomedans.

† The Estonians were the inhabitants of Eastland, or Eastern Prussia.

In *Dugdale's Monasticon Anglicanum*, Vol. III. p. 837, is a grant, or deed respecting certain lands given to the abbey of Wilton by King *Athelstan*, as early as the year 937, wherein Stonehenge, therein called *STAN-URVED*; i. e. *Stoneridge*, is named as a boundary mark.

the grandeur of the temple, but rather gave a littleness to the whole; and more particularly so, if, according to Smith, you add the two small trilithons of granite."

The only other opinion, relative to Stonehenge, to be noticed, is somewhat analogous to the last. Instead of regarding the larger compartments as of anterior construction to the smaller ones, some antiquaries have drawn a conclusion directly the reverse, and conceive that the lesser circle and ellipsis are true Druidical remains of a very early period; and that the outer circle and ellipsis were constructed in a more advanced state of art and science. This notion, we confess, seems more probable than that of Mr. Cunnington. The rudeness of the stones of the smaller compartments, their greater dilapidation, and the near resemblance of their configuration to the genuine Druidical monuments of Wales and Scotland, are circumstances certainly more indicative of antiquity than the superior magnificence and workmanship of the great architraves and trilithons. Belgic, or Roman civilization may be easily conceived to have improved the rude efforts of the early Cymri; but it is difficult to believe that it could produce a retrocession in taste and knowledge.

Having thus furnished the reader with a general sketch of the different theories which have been proposed concerning the origin and appropriation of this curious relic of antiquity, it may be expected that we should state distinctly our own opinions on these interesting points, and review those of our predecessors on the subject: this however, we must reserve for a future page, when we shall have occasion to describe the more stupendous monument at Avebury, a remain of the religious, or of the political character of our ancestors, still more wonderful, but much less known than the temple of Stonehenge. Suffice it at present to observe, that though veiled in profound obscurity, they are questions worthy the serious meditation of the philosophical antiquary, and not perhaps so incapable of resolution as many are apt to imagine. Their clear developement is a real *desideratum* in literature, as it would most likely exhibit something novel in

the history of the human species. Man would thus be presented to us under a new aspect; and hence the philosopher would acquire a wider range of experience to assist him in generalizing the phenomena of moral action.

The mysteriousness of Stonehenge, the legendary stories connected with it, and the natural and artificial features of the surrounding plains, are calculated to make strong impressions on the mind of the antiquary. They are also likely to produce very powerful effects on the poetical imagination. The subject indeed is replete with imagery, incident, and pathos: *Chatterton*, assuming an antique garb, thus descants on Stonehenge:

“ A wondrous pyle of rugged mountaynes standes  
Placed on eche other in a dreare arraie,  
It ne could be the worke of humau handes,  
It ne was reared up by menne of claie.  
Here did the Britons adoration paye  
To the false god whom they did Tauran name.  
Lightnyng hys altarre with greate fyrre in Flaie,  
Roasteyng theire victims round aboute the flame;  
'Twas here that Hengyst ded the Brytons slae,  
As they were met in counsil for to bee.”

The area of Stonehenge, as may be readily supposed, has excited the attention of the curious in a high degree, and consequently has been examined with considerable care by different antiquaries. No discoveries of importance, however, have been made within it. Stukeley, indeed, informs us, that a *tablet of tin* was found there in the reign of Henry VIII, and would wish it to be believed that it was a memorial of the founders; because the characters engraved upon it were unintelligible to the most learned antiquaries of the age; but this in fact proves nothing, as it furnished no information. It is much to be regretted that this relic is lost. Mr. Cunningham's researches only produced a few fragments of Roman and British pottery, some charred wood

and

and animal bones; such as are dug up in the vicinity of the Roman British habitations.

But though the area of this monument affords few materials of interest, the surrounding *Plain* deserves particular attention.—This is covered with a profusion of barrows, unparalleled in any spot of similar extent in England, and probably in the world. Many of these were opened by Sir Richard Hoare, and his indefatigable coadjutor, Mr. Cunington, and were found to contain, in some instances, Cists filled with burnt bones, and in others entire skeletons, with various relics of British art. One of these barrows is very large; but upon examination, it afforded no clue to its history, the original interment having escaped the researches of the above-mentioned antiquaries.

Several other objects here, however, besides the barrows, present themselves to our notice. The principal of these are the *AVENUE* and the *CURSUS*; the former of which has been previously noticed. It is a narrow strip of raised ground, bounded on each side by a slight bank of earth, and extending in a straight line from the entrance through the vallum of Stonehenge on the north-east, to the distance of five hundred and ninety-four yards, at which spot it divides into two branches, one of which directs its course to the southwards, and passes between two rows of barrows\*, while the other proceeds to the northwards, approaching within a few yards of the *Cursus*. The last is a very curious and interesting appendage to Stonehenge, if such it can properly

\* The northern group of these barrows is called by Stukeley the *Old King Barrows*, and the southern group the *New King Barrows*; and the same appellations are used by Sir Richard Hoare. They are much distinguished by clumps of fir-trees; but have evidently been originally disposed with more than usual regularity. Both together form a semicircular line with an opening in the centre, which has doubtless been left as a passage for the avenue. Hence it follows, that this is of more ancient date than the barrows, and of consequence so is Stonehenge. Dr. Stukeley conjectures that this branch of the avenue "continued its course in a direct line to Radfyn farm, on the banks of the river Avon, and from thence to Haradon Hill, a lofty eminence on the opposite side."

perly be considered, and certainly ranks among the most perfect relics of ancient manners of which our country can boast. It is a flat tract of land, bounded by two parallel banks and ditches, and is situated about half a mile to the north of the temple. According to *Mr. Philip Crocker*,\* it measures one mile, five furlongs, and one hundred and seventy-six yards in length, and one hundred and ten yards in breadth. Its direction is from east to west, and at the former extremity is a mound of earth resembling a long barrow, which stretches entirely across it. This, Sir Richard Hoare conjectures to have been appropriated to the spectators of the race, and remarks that a "more eligible spot could not have been chosen; for the ground descends from hence at first in a very gentle slope, and then ascends a slight hill, affording to the spectators a most comprehensive view of the whole course." At the distance of fifty-five yards from the same end the race-track is rounded off, as if the horses, or chariots made a turn at this point. The western extremity is destitute of any mound like that at the eastern end; but here are two barrows, irregularly placed within the area of the *cursus*, a part of which appears also to be cut off by a slight bank. The original purpose of this, it is difficult to determine, for we can scarcely suppose that if (as would seem most probable from the existence of the mound) the chariots started from the east end, they would drive *over* this bank, to the termination of the course at the west end. We should therefore be inclined to think it had been raised at a later period, for some object distinct from racing, did we not perceive that another similar bank is thrown across a second, and *smaller Cursus*, which is situated at the distance of nearly half a mile from the east end of the larger one. The barrows not appearing also in the lesser *cursus*, shew them to have been accidental intruders, and not intended

\* This gentleman has been employed by Sir Richard as his surveyor in most of his antiquarian excursions in Wiltshire; and by his zeal and knowledge has contributed much towards the elucidation of the antiquities of the county.



tended as *Metae*. They most likely were constructed, as the author last quoted observes, prior to the formation of the *cursus*, "and being between the bank and the end, could not have impeded the races; as I never can suppose that the chariots passed over the bank. They might perhaps have started from this end; and in that case the bank would prove no impediment to their career." \*

From the near resemblance in plan and construction of the above works to the *Cursus* of the Roman circus, it seems the most reasonable conclusion to refer their origin to that people; but from their proximity to Stonehenge, and their apparent connection with that temple, some difficulties arise on the subject. If the suggestion of Mr. Ingram could be regarded as correct we should then incline to the belief that it was formed by those mighty conquerors, upon the site of some ruder race-ground appropriated by the Britons to their funeral races. This, however, like all other circumstances relative to Stonehenge is as yet mere matter of speculative conjecture. We shall only further observe concerning the larger *cursus*, that it is called *YESTRE* in the poems of the Bard Aneurin, and is said to have been the area on which the conference between Vortigern and Hengist was held, and on which the feast was displayed under temporary apartments of wood. †

At SHREWTON, a small village six miles north-west of Stonehenge, in a small public-house, was formerly a curious piece of *sculpture*, in alabaster, said to have been dug up about the year 1750, from one of the adjoining barrows. It was of an oval form, about two feet in length, and one in breadth. In the centre was a figure of a female habited as a queen with a globe, sceptre, crown, and mantle of state; and in a compartment over her head were three smaller figures, designed to represent the three persons of the Holy Trinity. Round the sides were angels with  
some

\* History of Ancient Wiltshire, Vol. I. p. 159.

† Davies's "Mythology and Rites of the British Druids," p. 315, 370.

some of the apostles. The workmanship is described as being exquisite, particularly that of the female figure. This piece was first described in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for May 1752, soon after it was discovered.

To the north-east of this village is an ancient bank and ditch, which run north-west and south-east over Elston-Down, and form a junction with Old Ditch, already mentioned, as coming from the vicinity of Westbury, and extending itself nearly across the whole northern division of Salisbury Plain. This work appears to have constituted the road connecting the British villages on Winterbourne Stoke with another very extensive one in Elston parish. The last settlement is approached by a long avenue, or street, on the north side, and is clearly distinguished by the greater exuberance of verdure with which its site is covered, compared to the other portions of the Down.

Near the fourteenth mile-stone, north of Salisbury, says Sir R. Hoare, " is a large tumulus, called most appropriately *Ell-Barrow*, and still reserving its ancient British title of *Ell*, which signifies conspicuous; a title which it most justly deserves, for I know of no single object in this wild district which so generally attracts the eye at a distance. Near this long barrow we encounter a large and ancient bank and ditch running nearly east and west over a high ridge of land, and near it we again find its usual attendant the British village; but though this bank points westerly towards the course of the others before mentioned, I could not find out its junction with either of them. It is called *Old-Ditch* in the Wiltshire map, but improperly; as I have already stated where that ditch terminated. Close to the northern boundary of it we perceive traces of a British village, which continue in the most ostensible manner to the declivity of the hill facing Weddington Wells, and occupy several acres of the richest down I ever beheld. Adjoining these works is a little square entrenchment, vulgarly called *CHURCH-DITCHES*, with a regular entrance towards the east. Appearances of ancient population  
are

are still visible, though in a slighter degree over Charlton Down: the hill and vale are steep, and much intersected by each other, and the whole scenery is highly interesting to the antiquary and the admirer of simple unadorned nature."

To the north of the village last mentioned are several bays and ditches, one of which runs in a north-easterly direction towards CASTERLY-CAMP. This earthen work is evidently of British construction, and was most probably the site of a town similar to those before described at Stockton and Grovely. It does not, however, appear to have been so populous as either, but bears stronger marks of originality, and has none of the modern signs of innovation. It consists of a simple ditch and vallum, about a mile and a quarter in circumference, and inclosing an area of sixty-four acres. The vallum is twenty-eight feet in height, where most perfect and regular, which is on the east side. There are several entrances to this camp, and within the area, are two small earthen works tolerably entire, one of which has the ditch within the vallum, denoting, as we presume, its appropriation to religious or juridical purposes.

About two miles and a half to the north of Amesbury, in the vale of the Avon, is BILFORD, near which are two immense stones, similar to those at Stonehenge. One of them stands in the middle of the river, and is said to have a ring fixed to it. The other is placed on the open down, to the south-east of the village. About a mile further up the valley is a third stone of the same description. How these stones came to be placed in their present positions, whether they have been brought from Stonehenge in later times, or were left here on their passage to that celebrated temple, or whether they might not have belonged to an avenue between it and Avebury, are questions of too great difficulty to be resolved in the present state of our knowledge of aboriginal customs.

MILSTON is celebrated as the birth-place of *Joseph Addison*, one of the finest writers this country ever produced, who was born at the parsonage house in 1672. He was the son of the Rev. Launcelot Addison, rector of the parish, who sent him at an early age to the Charter House School, London, whence he removed to Queen's College, Oxford, and was afterwards elected to that of Magdalen, where he took the degrees of Bachelor and Master of Arts. He early obtained an intimate knowledge of classical literature, and distinguished himself by several correct and elegant compositions in Latin verse. He afterwards acquired considerable reputation by his efforts at poetical composition in his native language, and having been introduced to Sir John Somers through whose interest he obtained a pension of 300*l.* per annum, he made the tour of Italy, from which country he addressed his Epistle to Lord Halifax.

On the death of King William his pension was withheld, and he returned home in poverty and despondency. But having been solicited to celebrate in verse the victories of Marlborough, he produced his Campaign, and was immediately created a commissioner of appeals.

In 1709, he became secretary to the Marquis of Wharton, then Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and during his residence in that kingdom, assisted his friend Steele, with several valuable papers for the *Tatler*. On his return to England he established in conjunction with many other celebrated wits, the most splendid and permanent monument of his fame, the *SPECTATOR*; and that work was succeeded by the *Guardian*, the *Freeholder*, and other periodical works, in which the politics, as well as the genius of Addison prompted him to engage.

In 1713, he produced the Tragedy of *Cato*, and in 1716, he married the Countess of Warwick, but with no addition to his happiness. In 1717, he was appointed one of the secretaries of state to George I. But the duties of this situation being unconsu-

enial to his accustomed habits, he solicited his dismissal, and

shortly afterwards (June 1719) an asthmatic complaint terminated his life.\*

As a didactic poet Addison commands no praise beyond that which may sometimes be ascribed to the harmony and the correctness of his verse. He is often feeble in his language, and confused and inaccurate in his metaphors, and seldom atones for his errors, or deficiencies, by unexpected beauties. His dramatic poetry is of a higher character, and displays a loftiness of conception, and a force and dignity of sentiment, of which his lighter and more popular compositions would not have led us to suspect the existence. In his critical essays, if he be seldom profound, he is always instructive; his conclusions are those of natural good sense, cultivated to its highest possible state of refinement by a careful study of the best models, and neither perverted nor perplexed by the jargon of the schools, nor the authority of popular predecessors. But it is on his skill as a painter of life and manners; on the graceful vivacity of his familiar style; and the easy expression of exuberant, but unobtrusive wit, that he rests his claim to be numbered among the literary ornaments of his country. He combines the concise minuteness of Hogarth with the grace of Reynolds; and diverts and instructs the vulgar, without repelling the fastidious.

On the opposite side of the Avon from Milston is the village of Durrington, at a short distance from which appear the remains of an extensive British town, called *Durrington*, or *Long-Walls*. The first of these names, says Sir Richard Hoare, is clearly derived from the Celtic word *Dur*, signifying water, in allusion to its proximity to the river, which, indeed, bounds it on the eastern parts, and supplies the place of an artificial embankment. On the other parts it still bears decided marks of  
a lofty

\* An elegant and apposite monument was raised in 1809 to his memory, in the Abbey Church of Westminster. It is executed with much taste and skill by R. WISTONCHURCH, Esq. R. A. and consists of a statue of the amiable essayist, standing on a circular pedestal, which is enriched with figures in basso-relievo, illustrative of the character and talents of the deceased.





a lofty circular vallum, which has suffered much, however, from the operations of the plough. Within the area of this earthen work a considerable quantity of British pottery and other relics of habitation have been dug up.

**WILBURY HOUSE**, the seat of Sir Charles Warre Malet, Bart. is about four miles east of Amesbury. It is part of the parish of Newton-Tony, in which village the ancient manor-house formerly stood: this appears to have obtained the adjunct of Tony from a family of that name, who resided here soon after the Norman Conquest. In the time of Queen Anne the manor was purchased by William Benson, Esq. who built the present mansion. This gentleman made many improvements on the estate, by extensive plantations and inclosures. It was afterwards possessed by different persons named Hoare, Greville, and Bradshaw: the latter of whom sold it to the present possessor in the year 1803. Sir Charles had resided for some time before at Hartham Park, near Corsham, after his return from India in 1798, in which year he was advanced to the Baronetage. The demesne of Wilbury has been taken from the bare, and almost sterile Downs of Salisbury. At the present time, therefore, it forms a striking, and pleasing contrast to the surrounding country. Whilst the latter is dreary, uncultivated, and divested of trees; the former is fertile, sylvan, and covered with plantations. Such is the effect of human industry and skill. Under the judicious management of its present possessor, Wilbury must increase in picturesque beauty, and value. In the year 1806, he planted between 40,000 and 50,000 trees. The whole parish consists of 2368 acres. On a substratum of chalk, is a light loam soil, which varies in depth from six to twenty inches. The lands are chiefly appropriated to natural and artificial grasses; to sainfoin, turnips, rape, vetches, and rye. The trees most abundant here are Scotch fir, larch, spruce fir, and Weymouth pine; but here are many fine oaks, elms, ashes, birches, chestnuts, beeches, and aspens.

The house, built of stone, consists of a centre and two cor-



responding wings: and is adapted rather for the comfortable accommodation of a family than for show. In the annexed print is displayed the principal, or southern front, with some grand masses of woods which screen it on three sides.

IDMISTON, a small village about three miles to the south-east of Amesbury, in the vale of the Winterbournes, deserves notice as having been, for many years the residence of the *Rev. John Bowle*, commonly called *Don Bowle*, from his attachment to the Spanish language. This gentleman was born in 1725, and received his education at Oxford, where he took orders, and was soon afterwards presented to the vicarage of Idmiston, which he retained till his death in 1788. Mr. Bowle was a man of erudition, and particularly conversant with antiquities. He likewise possessed an accurate and extensive fund of classical learning, as well as a comprehensive knowledge of most of the modern languages of Europe. Having imbibed a peculiar predilection for *Don Quixote*, he published a very splendid edition of that admirable romance with notes, which not having met with a favourable reception from the literary journals he was induced to engage in a controversy with the critics of the day. Mr. Bowle edited several "*Miscellaneous Pieces of ancient English Poesie*," and contributed many valuable hints and corrections to *Granger's Biographical History*, and many criticisms and illustrations to *Johnson's* and *Steeven's* edition of *Shakspeare*, and *Warton's History of Poetry*. He also wrote four papers in the *Archæologia*; and a variety of articles in the *Gentleman's Magazine*; and had the honour to be the first, according to *Bishop Douglas*, who detected the forgeries of the unprincipled *Lauder* \*.

BRITFORD, or BEREFORD, a small village and parish, to the south of Longford Castle, and about two miles south-east of Salisbury, was anciently the lordship of Earl Harold, afterwards King of England, as appears from the *Conqueror's Survey*; and was

\* *Gen. Biog. Dict.* by *Alexander Chalmers*, F. S. A. 1813.

was probably seized upon by William, and given by him to one of his officers, but to whom is not recorded. In Henry the Sixth's reign it was possessed by Sir John Tiptoft, father of John Tiptoft, whom that monarch created Earl of Worcester. Richard III. conferred it on Henry Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, and it is now the property of the Earl of Radnor.

Aubrey informs us that there was discovered at this place (which he calls Bethford) in the year 1663, "a grotto paved with Mosaic work," some of which was in his own possession. The church contains a few monumental erections. Among others the following is inscribed on a handsome architectural cenotaph:

DEO OPTIMO, MAXIMO, MUNIFICENTISSIMO. HOC GRATI  
ANIMI SUI, ET SPORUM, QUAECUNQUE SIT, TESTIMONIUM  
PONICURAVIT, JACOB COMES RADNORIE EO QUOD  
FAMILIÆ SUÆ, PRÆTER QUÆ UNIVERÆ HOMINUM GENERI  
LIBENTER PRÆSTITIT, PECULIARIA INSUPER INDULSIT BE-  
NEFICIA, QUAM FIDEI REFORMATÆ CAUSA PATRIA EXU-  
LANTEM, FORTUNIS CARENTEM, CONTUMELIIS OBJECTAM  
IN HAC TERRA LIBERTATIS, TAM IN REBUS SACRIS, TAM  
CIVICIS DOMICILIO PROVIDE LOCAVERIT, ET DIVITIIS CON-  
TINUO NON EX FRAUDE, NON EX PECULATU, NON CUM MEN-  
TIS INTEGRÆ AUT FAMÆ INJURIA, SED E COMMERCIO FELI-  
CI, EX NUPTIIS UBERRIMIS, ATQUE TESTAMENTA FACIENTUM  
LIBERALITATE CONQUISITIS, NECNON HONORIBUS POS-  
TREMO, AC SEDE MAGNATES INTER BRITANNICOS HÆREDI-  
TARIA, ORNAVERIT, FOVERIT, ADAUXERIT, QUAM DENIQUE  
SIC EXTRINSECUS CURATAM DIVINO AUXILIO NEC PERMISE-  
RIT, CARERE NEC PLERUMQUE ABUTI VOLUERIT. ABSIT UT  
FAVOR NUMINIS TAM PROPITIUS ABSTRAHATUR, SED PRÆ-  
SERTIM ABSIT, UT BENEFICIORUM, QUÆ TANTA JAM-JAM  
PERCEPTA FUERINT, ANIMO GRATA EXCIDAT MEMORIA.  
—RADNOR. 1777.

In the chancel is an altar-tomb, beneath a niche. By the style of the arch, and armorial bearings, it seems likely to have belonged to the Stafford family: it is said that the tomb was held by Henry Stafford, Duke of Buckingham at the time he was

beheaded. In Jones's History of Brecknockshire, are many interesting particulars of the Stafford family, with a pedigree, &c. In the parish register of this place are the following entries relative to soldiers of the garrison of Longford Castle, in 1644-5—

"Anne—Servent to Jo. Soy, who was frighted yf not ravishit by Souldiers burd. March 30."

"A strong souldier from Thomas Poor at East Harna. buried. Oct. 23d.

"Another Souldier from Longford garrison buried Nov. 2. Henry Radford a Souldier from Langford buried Nov. 20.—Robert Welch a soldier from Langford buried Dec. 16. Another Soldier from Langford buried the same day," 1645. A Soldier from Langford, a Cornish man buried January 1. Another Soldier from Lanford, buried Jan. 2d. A soldier from Longford buried March 10. Another buried March 14. Another soldier of the garrison killed in Britford, bured April 10.—Captain Butler of the Kentish Dragoons buried April 17. Another soldier of Longford buried July 4th.

### LONGFORD CASTLE.

About three miles south-east of Salisbury is Longford Castle, the seat and property of the Earl of Radnor. The house, or castle, is seated on the western bank of the river Avon, which flows in a rapid, clear, and broad stream through the park, and thence through a level, and sylvan tract of country to Christchurch, in Hampshire. As originally constructed, the house assumed a singular, and rather whimsical form: being designed, in its ground plan, to resemble the noted Catholic monogram of the Trinity\*. It appears to have been erected in the year 1591, by

Sir

\* In an old volume of Architectural Drawings, the property of John Soane, Esq. professor of architecture to the Royal Academy, is a plan and perspective elevation of Longford house, apparently the original designs of the

Sir Thomas Gorges and his lady \*, but probably on the site of a more ancient mansion; for it is said that Sir Walter Waleram, Lord of Longford, built a mansion on his estate here in the time of Richard I. In the year 1650, and again in 1717, considerable alterations were made in the present mansion. It is a triangular building with a round tower at each extremity. The external walls are built of stone and flint, and the principal front was formerly adorned with a great profusion of architectural ornaments, all in stone; such as columns, pilasters, sculptured friezes, balustrades, caryatides, &c. This front was 159 feet seven inches in extent. In the centre of the building was a small triangular court, with circular staircases at each angle. This curious mansion was formerly surrounded by a moat, and approached by drawbridges: according to the views of it drawn by Thacker †, it appears that fish ponds, parterres, clipped hedges, terraces, &c. were the accompaniments of the house. All these, however, have long been swept away, and the castle itself is destined to be taken to pieces, and a much larger edifice raised in its place. The present nobleman proposes to erect a very large castellated mansion; to consist of six round towers at as many angles; with a larger tower in the centre; and inter-

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mediate

the architect. The whole volume of drawings are by John Thorpe, dated 1570 and 1596, and are very curious illustrations of the style and fashion of domestic architecture, as then practiced in many of the family mansions. In the plan alluded to is a triangular diagram terminated at the three angles, with circles: in the centre is also a circle, with the word DEUS. From this diverge three radii with the word EST to each, within the circles at the extremity, are first, the word, PATER; 2ndly, FILIUS, and 3dly, SPIRITUS SANCTUS; whilst the three lines connecting the points of the triangle are inscribed with the words NON EST.

\* They were buried in Salisbury Cathedral: vide ante p. 180.

† Eleven different plates were engraved from his drawings whilst Longford was possessed by Lord Colerane: whose chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Pelat, wrote an elaborate history of the Lordship of Longford. This MS. is now in the possession of Lord Radnor. For some account of the Colerane family, see Lytton's Environs of London, Vol. III.

mediate apartments between, to connect and unite the whole. One of these apartments is to be appropriated to a picture gallery; to contain the valuable collection, which is now disposed in different rooms. Many of these pictures are highly interesting and valuable: indeed Longford castle has long been distinguished for its choice display of works of art. The following list enumerates the chief of these:

Nathan reproving David, by saying thou art the man, *Rembrandt*:—Landscape with figures, *Wynants*:—A gale at sea, *Vandervelde*:—Portrait of—— Prince of Orange; Samuel anointing David, *Van Dyck*:—The Holy Family, *L. Carracci*:—Landscape with figures, *Polemburgh*:—Gipsies and travellers, *Lingleback*:—Portrait, *Tintoretto*:—St. John in the desert, *Antonison*:—Tobit anointing Tobias's eyes, *Spagnoletto*:—Portraits of Calvin and Beza, the reformers:—An Holy family, *Julio Romano*:—An Old man's Head, *Spagnoletto*:—Madona and child, *Benò du Garaffola*:—Holy Family, *Car. Maratti*:—Flight into Egypt, figures by Rothenamer, *Breughel*:—View of Fontainebleau, *Old Patel*:—Two small Landscapes with figures, *Ferg*:—Two small pictures of Strolling Players, *Callot*:—Head of O. Cromwell, *Walker*:—Two small Landscapes, *Van Uden*:—St. John pointing out the Lamb of God, *Romanelli*:—Portrait of Sir Anthony Denny, *Holbein*:—Christ on the road to Emmaus, *Romanelli*:—The Salutation, *Fran. Penni*:—Resurrection, a Sketch, *S. Ricci*:—A Noli Me Tangere, *Placido Costanzi*:—Two Landscapes with figures, *F. Mola*:—Portrait of—— Duke of Norfolk, *Holbein*:—Christ and Woman of Samaria, *Plac. Costanzi*:—Annunciation and the Wise Men's Offerings, *A. Dürer*:—Two Landscapes and figures, *V. Deist*:—Ruth and Naomi, *Cigoni*:—Holy family, *Parmegiano*:—Holy family, *C. Maratti*:—Dutch fair, *Wouvermans*.

A large landscape with figures, dogs, &c. called the Return so from the Chace, by *Teniers*:—This is a very extraordinary picture by the master, on account of its size:—Landscape with view

view of the rocks and cascade at Tivoli, by *G. Poussin*:—Portrait of the painter, with a drawing in his hand, *C. Dolci*:—View of an harbour with Shipping, *S. Rosa*:—Dutch boors bowling at the pin, *D. Teniers*:—Group of boys, in *chiaroscuro*, *Van Dyck*:—Portrait of the artist's son, *Rubens*:—Portrait of old D. Teniers, by himself:—Cupids harvesting, *Rubens*:—Portrait of Rubens on a white horse, by *Van Dyck*:—Head of Magdalen, *Guido*:—Two landscapes with figures, ruins, &c. by *Claude*:—These pictures are justly celebrated, and have obtained the approbation of some of the most eminent connoisseurs of the country. They are emblematic of the rise and fall, or ascendancy and decline of the Roman empire. The first is shown by the sun rising above the horizon, in a rich and luxuriant country. Near the fore-ground are some vessels, with several figures, intended to mark the landing of Eneas in Italy. The decline of the empire is emblematically represented by an evening scene, or sun-set, with several Roman buildings in ruins. "Nothing," says Mr. Gilpin, "can exceed the colouring of both these pictures. The hazy light of a rising sun, and the glowing radiance of a setting one, are exactly copied from nature, and therefore nicely distinguished." This elegant writer afterwards compares and contrasts Claude, with Salvator; and asserts that the genius of the former was less sublime than that of the latter: whilst one studied, and formed his principles in the Campagna of Rome, the other stored his mind with scenes among the mountains of Calabria.

S. Sebastian fastened to a rock, and shot with arrows, *M. Angelo*, and *Seb, del, Piombo*.

Adoration of the Golden Calf; and Passage of the Red Sea: two very fine, and highly valuable pictures, by *N. Poussin*. In Felebian's *Lives of the Painters*, is an account of these pictures.

Jupiter and Europa, by *Romanelli*.

Two full length portraits of a philosopher and a mathematician, with several musical, astronomical, and mathematical instruments,

ments, by *Holbein* :— This picture was formerly in Le Brun's collection.

View of the Escorial, by *Rubens*.

A full length portrait of Adrian Pulidopareja, by *Valcsquez*.

Heads of *Ægidius* and *Erasmus*, by *H. Holbein*. These are curious portraits.

The former person was an intimate friend of *Erasmus*. The latter head was brought by the painter to England, with a recommendatory letter from *Erasmus* to Sir *Thomas Moore*, who introduced the artist to the monarch, by whom he was much employed and patronized.

A *Steel Chair*, remarkable for the human labour, perseverance, and ingenuity, displayed in its execution. It was made by *Thomas Rukers* at the city of *Augsburgh* in the year 1575, and consists of more than 130 compartments, all occupied by groups of figures representing a succession of events in the annals of the Roman empire, from the landing of *Eneas*, to the reign of *Rodolphus the Second*.

## LUDGERSHALL.

LUTGERSHALL, LUGGERSHALL, or LURGERSHALL, is a small borough town situated on the confines of this county with Hampshire at the distance of sixteen miles and a half N. N. E. from Salisbury, and seventy miles W. S. W. from London. It possesses no charter, but enjoys the privileges of a borough by prescription. The government is vested in a bailiff chosen at the annual court leet of the Lord of the manor. This borough was represented in all the Parliaments convened by *Edward I.* and made three returns in the reign of *Edward II.*, and three in that of *Edward III.* In the 11th year of the reign of *Richard II.* however, it was disfranchised, and continued so till the ninth year of *Henry V.* when it resumed its rights, and has regularly sent two members to Parliament ever since. The elective franchise, according to the

the borough custom, was formerly declared to be "in such persons as have any estate of inheritance or freehold, or leasehold, determinable upon life or lives, within the borough not confined to entire ancient houses, or the sites of ancient houses within the said borough." This right being of a very complicated kind, has been the source of several litigations in contested elections; but in the last report of the committee of privileges of the house of commons, on the subject, it was finally determined "to be in the freeholders and copyholders of the borough houses, and in leaseholders for any term not under three years." The lord's bailiff is the returning officer. The votes are estimated at about seventy in number.

Ludgershall, though anciently a town of considerable extent and importance, and said to have been honoured by the residence of some of the Saxon monarchs is now much declined in size and consequence. It possesses no modern building worthy of notice, nor any architectural remain of its former grandeur except the ruins of a *Castle*, which was built here soon after the Norman Conquest, but by whom or at what precise time, is unknown. It was doubtless in existence, however, previous to the year 1141, for in that year William of Malmesbury informs us that the Empress Maud took shelter in it, in her flight from Winchester to the Castle of Devizes, and as the governor of the last mentioned fortress refused to surrender it for her use, it is probable she resided at Ludgershall for some days. From that period nothing is recorded of this castle till the reign of Richard I., when it appears in the list of donations by that monarch to his brother John. After the accession of the latter to the throne it constituted part of the possessions of Geoffrey Fitzpiers, Earl of Essex and Chief Justice of England. This nobleman being endowed with great talents and learning had the chief controul in public affairs, and was even feared by the king himself on account of his vast influence and riches. When information was brought of the Earl's death, the monarch is said to have exclaimed, "Now I shall be king."



king and lord of England," a plain indication that he did not consider himself such while Fitzpiers lived. \*

Ludgershall lordship and castle continued in the same family till the 10th year of King Henry III. when Jollan de Nevill, principal warden of the king's forests, was nominated governor of this Castle. How long he held this office is unknown; † but in 1260, we find it was enjoyed by Robert de Waleran, who shortly after vacated it to make room for Roger, Lord Clifford. ‡ This person is the last whose name is recorded as governor of the castle of Ludgershall; indeed subsequent to his time no notice is taken of this fortress, though the lordship and manor are frequently mentioned. Hence it is conjectured that the castle was dismantled in the reign of the first Edward, when many of our fortified places suffered a similar fate, in order thereby to diminish the power of the barons, who, secure within their castles, too frequently defied the sovereign authority, and gave occasion to violent civil commotions.

In the reign of Edward III. the lordship of Ludgershall was vested in John, Lord Molins, who obtained from the king a licence to impark his woods, here with one hundred acres of land and pasture for the better support of his dignity and state of a banneret. Edward of Hadham, Earl of Richmond, possessed it in the reign of Henry VI.; and in the 16th year of Edward IV. it was granted to George Duke of Clarence, together with all the knights fees belonging to it. Its descent after this period is not precisely ascertained, but in the time of Leland it seems to have been held by the Crown. The words of that writer are

" Luggershaull

\* See Holinshed's Chronicle, Vol. II.—313, 4to, 1807.

† In Walpole's Anecdotes of Painting, Vol. I. p. 12, we are informed that Henry III. visited Luggershall Nov. 26, 1239, but the author does not say who was then governor.

‡ This Roger, Lord Clifford for some time espoused the cause of the rebellious barons under Montfort, Earl of Leicester; but afterwards changing sides he was highly instrumental in raising an army for the king, and contributed greatly to the victory of Evesham.

"Ludgershaull suntyme a castle in Wilesheire, 10 miles from Marleborow, and a 4 miles from Andover almoste in the way betwixt. The Castell stooode in a parke; now clene downe. There is of late tymes a pratie Lodge made by the Ruines of it, and longgithe to the kyng." \* The castle is now so completely ruinous that no idea of its former extent, or appearance, can be formed from the most accurate examination of its remains. The round-headed windows in such parts of the wall as are tolerably entire, however, clearly point out its Norman origin.

Ludgershall had formerly a weekly market, but this has long been discontinued. There is, however, a considerable fair still held here annually. In the market place is a mutilated *stone cross*, adorned on all its sides with much interesting sculpture, in bas relief, nearly destroyed, but evidently representing the Descent from the Cross, and other circumstances of our Saviour's history.

The *Church* here is a plain structure, consisting of a nave, chancel, and transept, with a tower at the west end. Beneath a canopy in the wall between the nave and south transept, is a gorgeous monument in honour of *Sir Richard Bridges*, *Knt.* and *Jane* his wife, whose figures, dressed in the costume of their age, lie recumbent on a altar-tomb.

In the neighbourhood of Ludgershall was found about the close of the last century, a silver *Seal*, which belonged to *Milo*, constable of Gloucester. In the centre was the representation of a knight in chain armour on horseback, and bearing a shield on one arm and a standard with three tails on the other. Round the border was this inscription—"Sigillam Milonis de Glocestria." A print of it is engraved in the fourteenth volume of the *Archæologia*.

**NORTH-TUDWORTH, or TIDWORTH†**, a small village, situated to

\* Itinerary, Vol. VII. fol. 71.

† It is called *North Tidworth* in contradistinction to the adjoining village of *South-Tidworth*, which is situated in Hampshire.

to the south-west of Ludgershall, on the confines of this county with Hampshire, is noted as the birth-place of *Robert Maton*, a celebrated divine, who was born about the year 1607. At the age of sixteen, he became a commoner of Wadham College, Oxford, where he took his degrees in arts, and entering into holy orders, obtained a benefice in his native county; but at what place is unknown. Having adopted the belief of a millenium, the press was no sooner unshackled by the breaking out of the rebellion, in 1642, than Maton determined to promulgate his favourite doctrine to the world. This he accordingly did in the three following works: "*Israel's Redemption, or a Prophetical History of our Saviour's Kingdom on Earth;—A Discourse of Gog and Magog;—and a Comment on the Twentieth Chapter of the Revelations.*" The novelty of the opinions advanced in these productions, and the many allusions which they contained to passing events, naturally excited much attention, and gave birth at once to applause and opposition. Mr. Petrie, a Scotch minister at Rotterdam, entered the lists of polemical controversy with great zeal, and wrote an able answer to the work first mentioned, which Maton endeavoured to defend in a Treatise intituled "*Israel's Redemption Redeemed.*" This also fell under the animadversion of Petrie, whose arguments were urged with so much force and perspicuity, that his antagonist was compelled to shift his ground on many points in his reply, which he published under the title of the "*The Fifth Monarchy,*" &c. in 1655. The period of Maton's death is uncertain; but it is supposed to have occurred before the passing of the act of Uniformity in 1662, as his name does not appear in the list of clergymen ejected upon that statute\*.

Adjoining to the village is the manor house of Tidworth, which was formerly surrounded with a large park, now appropriated to arable cultivation. The late proprietor of this mansion, *Edward Moore, Esq.* was a man of very singular character. He was brought

\* *Granger's Biographical History of England*, Vol. III. p. 52. "*Magna Britannia.*"—*Wills.*

brought up to the Bar, and practised for a short time in some of the county courts. Not obtaining the success and popularity he expected, he retired from public life, and went to Rome. At that classical city he remained some years, and on his return affected the manners and customs of the modern Italians. For many years he lived secluded from the world, and almost shut out from respectable society. Devoted to music and literature, he found in these, abundant sources of amusement. It was a practice with him to write down his opinions, on almost every subject that came immediately under his cognizance; and also to record anecdotes, and characteristics of all public men, that he either knew personally, corresponded with, or read of. These lucubrations fill several quarto volumes, and it is believed were bequeathed to his friend John Collins, Esq. of Devizes. Mr. Poore died in Italy.

The *manor house* of Tidworth is said to have been a place of some notoriety in the reign of King Charles the Second. At that time it was generally reported to have been haunted, by an invisible drummer; this story forms the plot of Addison's comedy of the "*Drummer, or the Haunted House*."\*

CHIDBURY-CAMP is situated to the north west of Tidworth, on the summit of an isolated hill, which forms a very conspicuous land mark, and commands a very extensive and diversified prospect. The encampment has a double ditch and vallum, disposed in the shape of a heart. The inner ditch measures five furlongs and three hundred feet in circumference, and is forty six feet in depth from the top of the vallum, on the steep side. The area contained within the ramparts, comprises an extent of seventeen acres, the whole surface of which is much defaced by excavations, and bushes of furze. The principal entrance to this earthen work is placed at its narrow end, and is defended by a strong outwork. Besides this, however, there are some other openings through the ramparts, but only two of them appear to have been original.

Issuing

\* See an Account of this Play in *Biographia Dramatica*, vol. ii. 176.

Issuing from the principal entrance is a very bold, broad and straight raised causeway, so much resembling the Roman roads in its construction that Sir Richard Hoare is disposed to think it had been formed in imitation of them by some of the Romanized-Britons. This causeway extends towards the village of East-  
 Everley, and measures one mile and eighty eight yards in length. In its course it divides a large Druid barrow into equal parts, a circumstance which would argue it to be of as late date as the decline of the barrow mode of burial in this country. At its termination, in the vale of Everley, are several irregularities and excavations in the soil, indicative of early habitation, but upon digging into them, no traces of building or relicts of art could be discovered, by the antiquary last mentioned, though he was particularly zealous in his examination of this spot, in the hope of ascertaining the precise site of the palace, which according to tradition, King Ina built and occupied in the vicinity of Everley. To the south of these excavations are two ancient banks and ditches, one of which intersects the causeway and conducts into an extensive British village, and to a large group of barrows. The whole of these were opened by Sir Richard Hoare; and some of them were found to contain curious and uncommon articles of workmanship; but what appears most singular is the fact of many of them containing only empty cists; a singularity which Sir Richard observes scarcely ever occurred during his researches in other parts of the country; and then asks, "can we suppose that the Britons entertained the same ideas as the Greeks and Romans, who erected to the memory of those whose bodies could not be found a *tumulus honorarius* or *cenotaphium*, from the superstitious notion that the soul could not rest unless deposited in a tomb."

Besides the raised way several banks and ditches diverge from Chidbury encampment to the east, west, and south. Those which take a southern direction connect themselves with a double range of similar banks and ditches which intersect different portions of Great Wyke Hill and Beacon Hill. Adjoining to the most westerly

terly range near the twelfth milestone on the road from Salisbury to Marlborough over the Downs, is a small earthen work with an entrance towards the south, and measuring on that side 140 feet, on the west 120 feet, on the east 160 feet, and on the north, where it assumes a semicircular form, 176 feet. The entrance is placed at the distance of 40 feet from the eastern angle. On West Down-Hill are vestiges of a British village; and east from thence, at the foot of Chalk Pit Hill, is a vast collection of barrows; close to which is another small earthen work, having its ditch within the vallum. It measures 200 feet in length and 105 feet in breadth; and is entered on its southern side. This work is of a square figure, and bears evident marks of very high antiquity.

On *Wick-Down*, to the north of Ludgershall, an ancient bank and ditch are discovered; directing their course eastward, and pointing at their termination towards *Collingbourne-Woods*, which is a very extensive tract of thick coppice, the property of the Earl of Ailesbury. Within these woods is a small building called *Collingbourne Lodge*, the residence of his Lordship's wood-surveyor; and about 320 yards north from it, in the middle of the copse wood, another large bank and ditch are seen, similar to those last mentioned. This bank and ditch afterwards issue from the wood in a very bold form, and traverse a piece of common denominated *Chute-Down*, from its proximity to that village, which derived its name from having been situated within the ancient *Forest of Chute*. This forest stretched several miles into Hampshire; and approached so near to *Savernake forest* on the north, that it was long a matter of dispute whether an inclosed plot of ground at *Happingcombe* was within the one or the other forests. Among the patent rolls of 13 Hen. 4. the record of inquiry into this subject is still extant. It is entitled, "Quod herbagium regis de Happingcombe infra forestas de *Savernake* et *Chury* in comitatu Wilts pertinet custodi forestae de *Savernake* ut parcell dict. custod." by which it appears that the decision was for *Savernake*. The original copies of different  
annual

annual grants of the venison in Chute forest are still preserved; also one by King Richard the Second, to the Abbess of Wherwell during his life.

Chute was the birth place of *Jeremy Corderoy*, a divine of considerable celebrity in the seventeen century. He was educated at Alban Hall, Oxford, where he took his degrees in arts, and entering into holy orders, became one of the chaplains of Merton, but constantly refused accepting any living. He wrote several works on the subject of divinity, which, while they breathe the genuine spirit of Christianity urge with great warmth the necessity of moral rectitude to the attainment of Salvation.

Eastward from the village of Chute is CHUTE-PARK, the seat of the Meadows family. The deer park is detached from the house, and occupies a lofty ridge which commands a very extensive view over Hampshire. It is peculiarly worthy of the antiquary's attention from the circumstance of the Roman road from Venta Belgarum, or Winchester, to Cunetio on the river Kennet, passing through its precincts, in a bold and perfect form. Here also the road is remarkable on account of the singular deviation from its usual straight line, which it has been obliged to make to avoid the deep valley at Scots-Poor.

On a point of Lofly Down, projecting into this valley, is a strong earthen work denominated HAYDON-HILL-CASTLE, or CAMP, conjectured by Sir Richard Hoare to be a corruption from High Down Castle, to which its elevated situation is most correctly applicable. This earthen work is very irregular in its form, and has three entrances, but only two of them are supposed to have been original. The broadest and most perfect entrance is on the east side, near which is a large pond; there is also another pond near the west entrance; and what is remarkable neither of them are at any time destitute of water. Whether these ponds were coeval with the encampment cannot easily be determined, but we incline to the belief that they were. This encampment has only a slight ditch, but the great height of the vallum

lum and the lofty position of the whole work must have rendered it a fortification of great strength, in ancient times.

About half a mile to the northward, close to the village of *Fosbury*, a large bank and ditch are seen extending in a direction from north-east to south-west. These afterwards separate into two branches, both of which intersect the Roman road, one near to Scots-Poor, and the other between that place and the village of *Titcombe*. From this last diverge two other banks and ditches which run in a parallel line across the arable lands, and meet on a heath a little to the north of Scots-Poor. These banks and ditches differ in their construction from any we have hitherto described.

In the valley of the Bourne, to the westward are the two villages of *COLLINGBOURNE-DUCIS* and *COLLINGBOURNE-KINGSTON*, which are conjectured either to have given, or received their names, from William Collingbourne, Esq. who was tried and executed in the reign of Richard the Third for sedition, and particularly for posting upon the church doors satirical rhymes against the King and Ministry.\* In his indictment he is styled of *Lydiard* in Wiltshire; but was no doubt a native of this part of the county.

*Collingbourne-Kingston* is justly celebrated as the birth-place of *John Norris*, an eminent divine and philosopher, who was born at the parsonage house in the year 1657. His father, who was clergyman of the parish, sent him at an early age to Winchester school, whence he removed in 1676 to Exeter college, Oxford, where he took the degree of B. A. and was soon after elected fellow of All-Souls' College. In this situation he pursued with avidity the study of the Greek philosophers, particularly of

VOL. XV.—February, 1814. 2 D Plato.

\* The verses which particularly gave offence were the following, alluding to the King, Lord Lovel, Sir Richard Batsche, and Sir William Catesby.

“The Cat, the Rat, and Lovel the Dogge,  
Rule all England under a Hogge.”



Plato. Being constitutionally of a devout and melancholy temperament, the transition from the principles of that writer, to the visionary refinements of the mystic-theology, was a step easy and natural. He accordingly embraced them with warmth; and having read Malebranche's "*Recherche de la verite*," which was then in high repute, became a zealous supporter of the Ideal system. This bent of his genius was first brought into public notice in 1682, by the publication of a piece entitled "*The Picture of Love Unveiled*," a kind of philosophic rhapsody, bounded upon the notion that love is the sole principle in nature. In 1683 he published "*An Idea of Happiness*," in which work he affirms that happiness consists only in the enjoyment of God, and that a moral life is insufficient to confer that blessing. The same year came out a tract against the Calvinists, written in latin; and 1684 he published his miscellanies, under the title of "*Poems and Discourses occasionally written*."

About this time Mr. Norris took the degree of Master of Arts, and entered into Holy Orders; but did not obtain any preferment till the year 1689, when he was presented to the rectory of Newton St. Loo in Somersetshire. He now resigned his fellowship and married; but continued his literary exertions without remission. In 1690 he published "*Reflections upon the Conduct of Human Life, with reference to the Study of Learning and Knowledge*," which gave rise to a controversy between him and Mr. Vickerys, an eminent quaker, in the course of which he wrote two treatises concerning the divine light. In 1691 he was nominated, (as has been previously mentioned, to the rectory of Bemerton with Fugglestone) and in the three succeeding years published three volumes of "*Practical Discourses upon several subjects*." A fourth volume appeared in 1698, to which was subjoined an answer to Lady Masham's "*Discourse concerning the Love of God*." After this he engaged in his principal philosophical work, which occupied him during the period of seven years, and was published in two parts, the former in 1701 and the latter in 1704. The object of this publication was to defend

the principles of the Malbranchian system against the growing, and now happily successful opinions of the illustrious Locke. It was entitled, "An Essay towards the Theory of the Ideal and Intelligible World, designed for two parts; the first considering it absolutely in itself, and the second in relation to human understanding." Mr. Norris's next work was a "Practical Treatise on Humility," published in 1707, which was followed in 1708 by a defence of the immortality of the soul, in opposition to Mr. Dodwell's "Epistolary Discourse;" attempting to prove that the soul is a principle naturally mortal, though immortalized actually, by the pleasure of God, to punishment or reward, by its union with the divine baptismal spirit. In 1710 he produced a "Practical Treatise upon Christian prudence," which was the last of his publications: he having died in 1711, in the fifty-fourth year of his age, at Bemerton, where he was buried.\*

EAST EVERLEY, which in conjunction with Elstub, gives name to the extensive hundred in which it is situated, is said to have been anciently a market town and a place of considerable note. According to tradition, Ina, king of the West Saxons, and one of the most distinguished monarchs of the Saxon dynasty in England, had a palace here, in which he frequently resided and held his court. Of this building, if such actually existed, no traces have hitherto been discovered.

2 D 2

Everley

\* The works of Mr. Norris, besides those already mentioned, were, 1. "The Theory and Regulation of Love," 2. "Christian Blessedness, or Discourses upon the beatitudes of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." 3. "A Defence of some Reflections on the Dissenters contained in that Treatise." 4. "Letters concerning the Love of God," in illustration of his work on Happiness. 5. "An Account of Reason and Faith, in relation to the mysteries of Christianity." 6. "Reason and Religion, or the grounds and measures of devotion, considered from the nature of God and the nature of man, &c." And lastly, "Spiritual Counsel, or the Father's advice to his Children."

For a more particular account of this divine, see the *Biographia Britannica*, also his Life by the Rev. William Cox, rector of Bemerton.

Everley Lordship, says the author of "*Magna Britannia*," was the property for several successions of the Plantagenets, Dukes of Lancaster, and eventually became vested in the crown by the accession of Henry of Bolingbroke, (son to John of Gaunt) to the regal dignity. The same authority states that there "is in this place a famous warren, known in these parts by the name of Everley-Warren, where is a great breed of hares, which afford the recreation of hunting to the neighbouring gentry." In the reign of Queen Elizabeth the manor was granted to *Sir Ralph Sadler*, then Royal Falconer. It afterwards became the property of *Sir John Evelyn*, and passed from him to the Barkers, one of whom sold it to *Sir John Astley*, who bequeathed it to the present possessor *Francis Astley, Esq.*

In the manor house is an old full length portrait of *Sir Ralph Sadler*, with a hawk on his left hand. The drawing room remains in the same style as originally finished by that gentleman. In it is a curious picture consisting of several compartments representing as many events in the life of *John de Astley*, of Pate-shull in Warwickshire.\*

On the road leading from Everley to Marlborough are seen some scattered barrows and some faint traces of banks and ditches. At the distance of about two miles rises a round hill, called *Gods-bury*,

\* In the reign of Henry the Sixth he fought a duel on horseback at Paris, with a French Knight, named Peter de Masse, before Charles the Seventh and his court, when his antagonist was pierced through the helmet and overthrown. The same gallant Knight afterwards entered the lists at Smithfield in London, against *Sir Philip Boyle* an Arragonian, whom he likewise conquered, and in consequence received the honour of Knighthood from Henry the Sixth, and was invested with the Order of the Garter: "bearing for his arms the coats of Astley and Harcourt quarterly, with a label of three points ermine, as by a very ancient MS. book wherein the ensignes of those Knights of that honourable order are depicted appeareth." See Dugdale's *Antiquities of Warwickshire*, fol. 73, in which a plate is given representing the progress of both combats, the first of which took place 29th August, 1438, and the latter 30th January, 1441.

*bury*, which is the property of Lord Ailesbury. The summit of this eminence is crowned with a clump of trees; and around it are vestiges of a circular earthen work, whence probably the hill has acquired the latter part of its name; for as Sir Richard Hoare observes, it almost invariably happens that some earthen work may be traced on or near those places bearing the termination of *bury*. Opposite to Godsbury, and only separated from it by a narrow valley is another eminence, which is also decorated with trees, and still retains decisive evidence of having been the site of a British village, in a connected series of excavations surrounded by an agger of earth.

On *Milton-Hill* to the west of this eminence distinct marks of another extensive British settlement are visible; and still further to the westward, at the distance of half a mile, are two very ancient and curious British circles connected with each other by a hollow-way. The agger to both these works is slight, and is interior to the ditch; and from the dark colour of the soil and the articles dug up here the fact of ancient residence on this spot is clearly proved.

Nearer to Everley than these circles, is a group of *eight Barrows*, one of which is remarkable for having a more pointed apex than perhaps any other in Wiltshire. To the south is a small earthen work of an oblong shape; which is placed upon the slope of a hill, and measures 200 feet in length and 150 in breadth. The vallum of this work is complete on three sides, but is much damaged on the south side, where the entrance is supposed to have been situated. Adjoining on the north are vestiges of another British village.

**COMB-HILL**, situated to the south west of Everley, is also distinguished as the site of a large British settlement, which seems to have been connected by double and single ditches, or covered ways, with a still more extensive town on the north-west. This last, instead of being placed as usual on the summit of an eminence, is seated in a retired and tranquil valley. Several banks and ditches issuing from different parts of it, however,

ascend the surrounding hills. One of them leads to a small square earthen work, called **LIDBURY**, which measures three hundred and thirty yards in circumference, and is defended by a vallum forty feet in height. Northwards from Lidbury appears a bank and ditch which directs its course towards the vale of the **Ayon**, and has most probably been connected with another which proceeds along the hills to the eastward, and points to the British settlement last mentioned. In the space between these ditches are the "*Twin Barrows*," so called from their resemblance to each other, and the peculiarity of their being environed or protected by the same ditch. One of them, opened by Mr. Cunnington in 1806, was found to contain only an interment of burned bones and a bone pin; but its companion, which was explored in 1811 by Sir Richard Hoare, presented some peculiarities worthy of notice. It had no sepulchral deposit, but on approaching the floor an immense stratum of burned wood ashes was discovered, rising in the parts nearest the centre, to the height of three feet. The whole quantity amounted to a full cart load; and was intermixed with bones of animals, chipped flints prepared for arrows or lances, and some bone ornaments. These circumstances induced Sir Richard Hoare to conclude "that the first barrow was honoured with the sepulchral deposit, and the other only with the ashes of the funeral pile."

**NETHER-HAVEN** is a small village situated on the west bank of the river **Ayon**, at the distance of about six miles to the north of **Amesbury**. It obtained its name of *Nether* to distinguish it from *Uplaven*, or *Upper-Haven*. At this place was a seat of the noble family of Somerset, **Dukes of Beaufort**. It now belongs to **Hicks Beach, Esq.**

**CHESENBURY**, or **CHISSENBURY-PRIORY**, the mansion house of the **Grove** family, is seated two miles higher up the river, and on the opposite bank from **Nether-Haven**. Though designated *Priory*, it does not appear to have ever been the site of any monastic

monastic institution; and is therefore conjectured to have derived this part of its appellation simply from its being one of the manors granted to the priory at Okeburn. Close to it, a very bold double entrenchment is carried across the vale of the Avon; and at some distance to the east are the remains of another entrenchment forming the segment of a circle.

*Chisenbury Camp*, or *Trendle*,\* as it is, vulgarly called, is situated nearly half a mile north east of this. It is an earthen work of a circular figure, with a rampart sixteen feet in height and five hundred and ninety five yards in circumference, and contains within its area about five acres of ground. To the south, where the entrance is supposed to have been, is a detached outwork of unusual size. To what objects this entrenchment was appropriated it is difficult to determine, and antiquaries are divided in opinion on this subject; some considering it as a military post, and others as a Roman Amphitheatre, while a third class incline to the opinion that it is one of those circles which were set apart by the British for religious, or judicial purposes. The fact of some rude British pottery having been discovered close to the ramparts seems to favour the last conclusion.

UPHAVEN, HAVEN-UP, UPPER-HAVEN, or UP-AVON, a village which stands on the road from Ludgershall to Devizes, about a mile higher up the river than Chisenbury, is said to have been formerly a considerable market town. This privilege it acquired in the reign of Henry the Third, through the interest of Peter de Manley or de Mauley, then lord of the manor. In the reign of Edward the First, having passed into the possession of Hugh de Spenser, he procured for it a charter of free warren, and the right of holding two fairs annually. One of these as well as the market, which was held on Tuesday weekly, is now dis-

\*The term *Trendle* is frequently applied to circular earthen works. It is a word of Saxon origin, and signifies in that language a globe, sphere, or circle.

continued. This manor was granted by Richard the Third to Henry Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, who pretended to be heir to it in right of Humphry de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, to whom it had for some time belonged.

Uphaven, as Tanner informs us, was the site of an Alien priory for monks of the Benedictine order, who were placed here in the reign of Henry the First, soon after the parochial church was given to the ancient and opulent Abbey of St. Wandragasile, at Fontanelle in Normandy. At the dissolution of alien monasteries, this was granted, with all its possessions, to the priory of Ivy-Church, already described. On Uphaven Hill, to the east of the village, may be seen some faint traces of ditches, and a small square work with a very slight vallum.

GREAT CHARLTON, a small village in this vicinity, was anciently a place of considerable consequence, and constituted part of the possessions of William de Ewe, Earl of Salisbury. Here was, according to Tanner, an alien *Priory* annexed as a cell to the Premonstratensian Abbey, De Insula Dei, or L'Isle Dieu. It was founded in 1187 by Reginald de Pavely, and was probably endowed by him with large landed estates in this county. When the foreign monkish establishments in England were suppressed, this priory was granted to the Hospital of St. Katherine, near the Tower, London. In the time of Henry the Sixth it was farmed at 22l. per annum, and was given by that monarch for seven years to the college of Eton. King Edward the Fourth granted it to the Dean and Chapter of Windsor, but they never enjoyed it in consequence of the prior claims of Fotheringay Collegiate Church, as parcel of whose possession it was granted by Edward the Sixth to Sir William Sherington.\*

Great

\* It may here be proper to remark, that the Alien priory above mentioned, is frequently confounded with another at Charlton upon Otmoore in Oxfordshire, which was a cell to St. Ebrulf at Utica; and hence is omitted by most writers on Wiltshire. Its existence at this place, however, is undoubted.

CHARLTON is the birth place of STEPHEN DUCK, a thrasher and poet of some notoriety in the last century. His education originally was limited to reading and writing, with a slight knowledge of arithmetic. At fourteen years of age he became a menial servant, and continued in that capacity for several years, during which he appears to have read such books as he could procure with great avidity, and to have been stimulated by them to attempt poetical composition. Some copies of a letter, in verse, addressed to a young Oxford gentlemen, having been circulated in the neighbourhood, first introduced him to the notice of the Rev. Mr. Stanley, at whose request he wrote his piece called the "Thrasher's Labour." This was succeeded by a piece entitled the "Shunamite," which was the means of obtaining for him the patronage of Queen Caroline, who immediately conferred upon him a pension of thirty, some say fifty pounds, per annum, and afterwards appointed him one of the yeoman of the guard. Through the same influence he obtained a very full subscription to a quarto edition of his works, published in 1736. About this period he began to study for the church, and at the end of ten years was admitted into holy orders, having in the interim been nominated keeper of her Majesty's library at Richmond. In 1751 he was constituted preacher at Kew chapel, and the next year was presented to the rectory of Byfleet in Surrey. In 1754 he published his "Cæsar's Camp, or St. George's Hill," a poem in imitation of Denham's Cooper's Hill. This was the last of Mr. Duck's publications, for being seized with melancholia, shortly after its publication, he drowned himself at Reading, some time between the 30th of March and 2d of April, 1756.

The character of Mr. Duck is universally allowed to have been very respectable. There are evident traces in his writings of an upright and pious mind, and he always speaks of his poetical effusions with the greatest modesty. These indeed are far from sustaining a very high rank, "and yet it may be questioned whether he is not nearly upon a level with some who have obtained a place in Dr. Johnson's collection. In similes he is frequent, and



not unhappy in the application of them. Though never great, he is often not displeasing. In short, he may be regarded as having become a poet more from the bent of a strong inclination, and an imitative talent, than from the power of real genius.\*

**MARDEN, MERDON, or MERTON**, a village about three miles north-west of Uphaven, is supposed by some writers, to have been the scene of a bloody battle, which was fought, according to the Saxon Chronicle, in 871, between King Ethelred and the Danes, when the former was defeated, and died soon afterwards of the wounds he then received. He was interred at Wimburn, in Dorsetshire. In a preceding part (p. 17.) we noticed this battle; and on reconsidering the subject, in relation to the traditional, and local peculiarities of Marden, we are more confirmed in opinion that this was the real place of conflict. In the vicinity of Marden is a very remarkable *tumulus*; being of large dimensions, and standing alone. It measures about eighty yards in diameter at the base, and forty feet in height. Near it is a smaller hillock, or barrow; and both are inclosed by a vallum and ditch, which comprise an area of nearly thirty acres. The vallum is on the outside of the ditch, as at Avebury, and to most of the druidical barrows and circles. These works are formed of a sandy soil, and placed in the midst of a flat tract of country between two ridges of downs. On these eminences there are many barrows, but this is the only one in the low land: it is also curious that Marden tumulus is nearly midway, in a almost a strait line between Stonehenge and Avebury. A lane running north and south, in this part, still retains the name of *Street*. Marden barrow was dug into in the year 1768, when some human bones, stags horns, &c. were found. Mr. Cunningham again explored it; but without finding any thing. The adjoining rectory of Beachingstoke is possessed by the Rev. Charles Mayo.

**WILCOT HOUSE**, the seat of Admiral Montague, is situated  
about

Biographia Britannica, by Andrew Kippis, D. D. 1793. fol.  
Chalmer's General Biographical Dictionary. 8vo.

about four miles due north from Uphaven, on the south bank of the Kennet and Avon canal. The mansion is of modern erection, and is adorned with a finely wooded park, which is bounded to the south by one of the branches of the Avon. The manor, here, at the time of the Conquest, was the property of Edward of Salisbury, as appears from Domesday-book, in which it is added "*Et ecclesia nova, et domus optima, et vinea bona.*" i. e. here is a new church, a magnificent mansion, and a good vineyard. It subsequently constituted, for several centuries, the lordship of the noble family of Lovel, and fell to the Crown by the attainder of Francis, Lord Lovel, in the reign of King Henry the Seventh.

DRAYCOT, or DRAICOT, a small township in the parish of Wilcot, was the birth-place of JOHN BUCKERIDGE, D. D. Bishop of Ely\*. The exact period of his birth is not recorded, but it most probably happened about the year 1562. At an early age he acquired the rudiments of education at Merchant Taylor's School. In 1578, he became a member of St. John's College, Oxford, where he took his degrees in arts, and entered into holy orders. Upon leaving the University he was presented by his patron Robert, Earl of Essex, whose chaplain he was, to the rectories of North Fambridge, in Essex, and of North Kilworth, in Leicestershire. Soon afterwards he was nominated chaplain to Archbishop Whitgift, and was made prebendary of Hereford, and of Rochester. In 1604, he succeeded to the archdeaconry of Northampton, and received from King James a presentation to the vicarage of St. Giles's, Cripplegate, London. The following year he was appointed one of his majesty's chaplains; and in 1605, was elected

\* Most writers on Wilts, assign Draycot Cere, in Malmesbury hundred, as the place of Dr. Buckeridge's birth; but this is a mistake, for Fuller in his Worthies (Vol. II. Wiltshire) says positively that he was born at Draycot, near Marlborough; and informs us that he was told so by the bishop's secretary, with whom Fuller was personally acquainted.

elected president of his college. These honours were followed by his installation to a canonry of Windsor, in April 1606. His next preferment was to the See of Rochester, which he obtained in 1611, and held till 1628, when he was translated to the bishopric of Ely. This new dignity he enjoyed about three years, having died May 23, 1621. Bishop Buckeridge's principal work is entitled "*De Potestate Papæ in rebus temporalibus, sive in regibus deponendis usurpata*," which was esteemed a production of considerable learning. It was published in 4to. in 1614; and is highly praised by Bishop Godwin, in his "*Commentarius de præsulibus Angliæ*.\*" His Lordship likewise produced "*A Discourse on Kneeling at the Communion*," and some sermons preached on public occasions †. He was buried at Bromley, in Kent, without any monumental memorial.

Westward from Draycot are two small villages, called ALTON-PRIORS, and ALTON-BARNES, the former of which was the site of an ancient religious house; but nothing is known of its history. Alton Barnes was in later times the property of the Abbess of Amesbury Nunnery. The Rev. Wm. Crowe, L.L.B. public orator of Oxford, has the living of this place. About a mile to the west is STANTON-BARNWOOD, or BARNARD, the native place of *Nathaniel Stephens*, a learned divine of the seventeenth century. He received his education, and took his degrees in arts in Magdalen-Hall, Oxford. Soon after entering into holy orders, he became minister of Fenny-Drayton, in Leicestershire, where he not only performed his pastoral duties with assiduity, but wrote and published several works on different fundamental doctrines

\* The words of Godwin are "*Librum certe nuper is prescripsit de potestate Papæ in temporalibus, quem si vidisset Fisherus Antecessor ejus in dogmatibus palam tam falsi defensione vitam nunquam abjecisset. Neque enim inter octos quonquam reperiri posse credo tam parum oculatum, ut hoc Buckeridge nostri opus cum perlegerit, a nobis stare veritatem statim non perspiciat*," p. 539.—

† Biographical Dictionary, by Chalmers, 8vo. 1813.

trines of the Christian faith. In 1662, having refused to conform he was ejected from his living, and died at Stoke-Golding, in 1677.

Adjoining to Stanton Barnard is the village and parish of **ALL-CANNINGS**; the lordship of which belonged at the Conquest to the church of St. Mary at Winchester, and was assessed at thirty hides. The manor house still remains, but is now converted into a farm-house. In the church, which was partly erected in the seventeenth century, are several monuments which may claim our notice. Against the south wall is a marble tomb to the memory of *John Nicholas*, Esq. (grandson to Sir Edw. Nicholas, secretary of state to Charles I. and II.) who died February 25, 1737; and near it is another monument in honour of Penelope his daughter and coheirress, and of Richard Riggs, Esq. her husband, the former of whom died September 2, 1772, and the latter April 5, 1774. On the east side of the chancel is a stately tomb, which commemorates *Sir John Eruele* of Echilhampton, rector of this parish, who died March 30, 1734, his lady Elizabeth, (daughter of John Smith, Esq. of Alton Prior) who died March 9, 1729, and Walter Eruele, their son, who died November 28th 1733, in the 20th year of his age.

*Allington* and *Eichlhampton* are two small hamlets, in the parish of All-Cannings; in the first of which it is traditionally said was a religious house, but no mention of any such institution here, occurs in Tanner's Notitia. The living of All-Cannings is now enjoyed by the Rev. Thomas Anthony Mathuen, second son of Paul Cobb. Methuen, Esq. of Corsham-House.

**BISHOPS-CANNINGS** is situated about two miles from All-Cannings, and somewhat more than three from Devizes, in the direction of Marlborough. The principal object of attention is the *Church*, which is an ancient structure in the "English" style of architecture. It has probably been built, or at least rebuilt in great part, about the same period as Salisbury Cathedral, which

it somewhat resembles, in its style of architecture. At the end of the transept, and at the eastern and western extremities of the church, are seen the lancet headed windows, with three openings, or lights. The interior, however, seems to claim greater antiquity, having more of the Anglo-Norman character in its architecture than the exterior. The nave is supported by round pillars, with sculptured capitals, whence spring handsome pointed arches. The roof, side aisles, and clerestory windows of the nave have evidently been erected at a different, and later era than the eastern division. This is proved by the fact that the apex of the triangle in which the roof is constructed, is much more obtuse, and lower than in the original design, as may be observed from the west side of the tower. Besides, the rebuilt portion of the church is surmounted with battlements of a later period of architecture, and is lighted, by large broad windows adorned with mullions and tracery work. At the east end was formerly a handsome chapel dedicated to the Virgin, but now converted into the chancel, on the south side of which is a burial-place of the *Ernele* family, one of whom Michael Ernele, Esq. of Burton, who married Susan, daughter of Sir Walter Hungerford, of Farley Castle, has here a large marble monument, with an inscription to his memory, dated 1571. A view of this church, and further account of it, will be found in the fourth volume of the *Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain*.

### DEVIZES,

Or **THE VIES**, is a large borough and market town, situated near the centre of the county, in the hundred of Pottern and Canings. It is distant from Salisbury twenty-three and an half miles north-west by north, and from London eighty-eight miles and three quarters west by south. Its origin, like that of most ancient towns, is deeply veiled in obscurity, and has given rise

rise to much speculation among antiquaries. Some will have it to be of British, some of Roman, and others of Saxon extraction. Those who contend for its being British, assert that it was built either by Dunwallo, King of the Britons, or by a later British sovereign, *Divinus*, whom Dr Stukeley has been pleased to christen *Divitiacus*. Dr. Musgrave, in his “Belgium Britannicum,” inclines to the belief of its having been a Roman town, because of the many remains of Roman antiquity found here, and in the neighbourhood. In this opinion he is supported by Dr. Salmon \*, and by Dr. Stukeley, the former of whom insists that it was the *Verlucio* of Antoninus, and the latter, that it was the *Punctuobice* of Ravennas †. None of these views of the subject, however, are entitled to much credit. The *Verlucio* of Antoninus was undoubtedly by Heddington; and *Punctuobice* is at best of unquestionable existence, and cannot with reason be fixed here, upon the authority only of “an unmeaning, unaccountable, and absurd etymology,” like that which Stukeley has hypothetically proposed ‡. The discovery of Roman coins, and of Penates in the vicinity, does not prove the town Roman, because these might be hid in the fields; and as to the vallum and ditch which the last mentioned writer asserts environed its whole area, and was formed by that people, we are assured that no traces of them now remain. Many other reasons against the probability of the Roman origin of this town might be suggested.

As to the opinion, or assertion advanced by Walker, in his edition of Spelman’s *Life of Alfred*, that Devizes is indebted to that monarch for its first erection, we may remark that it is without

\* “New Survey of England,” 8vo. 1728.

† *Itinerarium Curiosum*, p. 136.

‡ The Doctor’s words, are “I suppose here is a remnant of the former part of the word *Punctuobice* in Poulsholt, a little village hard by, *Pottern* another, *Pottern Wood*, and the name of the hundred *Pottern*, taken in the first times of heir divisions from such a corrupt appellation of this place; the last syllable *bice* subsists in the present name *Devizes*, vulgarly called *Vies*.” &c. — *Itinerarium Curiosum*, p. 136.

threatened to hang Rogers's son upon it, if Ely remained obdurate. Already was the rope placed round the neck of the youth, without any symptom of the bishop's disposition to surrender, when Roger, anxious to save him, from an ignominious death, bound himself by a solemn oath to abstain from all sustenance till the king was put in possession of the castle. This oath was made known to Ely, but he still remained inexorable, and held out for three days before he could be induced to an unwilling surrender. The long fasting and grief of mind proved fatal to Roger, who survived the loss of his favourite fortress, of his dignity and of his treasures only a few months.\* Matthew Paris says the money alone of which Roger was robbed at Devizes amounted to an immense sum, and was the means of purchasing a marriage for Stephen's son, Eustace with Constantia, sister to Louis, King France. Knyghton states its amount at 40,000 marks.

About three years subsequent to this event the Castle of Devizes was seized by Robert Fitz Herbert, or Hubert, a young man of profligate character, addicted to blasphemy, rapine, and cruelty; in fine, the Cataline of his age. The manner in which he effected this object is not recorded, but there can be little doubt that it must have been by stratagem, or treachery. Be this, however, as it may, Fitz Herbert was no sooner in possession than he declared for the Empress Matilda, and boasted that he would render himself master in her name, of all the country from Wiltshire to London. But his attachment to the cause of the Empress was only a pretence to obtain popularity; for when she arrived, and demanded admission into the castle, Fitzherbert refused compliance with her request, so that he was thenceforth treated as a rebel by both parties in the contest for the regal dignity. John, who governed at Marlborough for the Empress, exasperated at this conduct, determined to bring the offender to punishment; but aware of the strength of the "Vies Castle," instead of attempting to take it by force, he laid a snare for the rebellious

\* Will. Malin. Rec. Angl. Script. Post. Bedam Savile. p. 181.

rebellious governor; and having been successful in securing his person, put him in chains, and hanged him as a traitor\*. From this period upwards of a century had elapsed before any other event occurred at Devizes, which the early writers have deemed proper to record. The year 1233, however, was remarkable for the imprisonment here of Hubert de Burgh, a man of distinguished eminence in the reign of Henry III. He had been prime minister to Henry; but having fallen under his displeasure, was committed to the custody of no fewer than four keepers to provide for his greater security; but notwithstanding he contrived to elude the vigilance of them all. Having heard that Peter de Rupibus, his avowed and inveterate enemy, had obtained the government of the castle, that he might lose no opportunity of destroying his life, Hubert prevailed on two of the guards to procure his escape, which they did in the following manner:—On the eve of St. Michael when their comrades were asleep, one agreed to watch, while the other should take Hubert on his shoulders, and lodge him safe behind the high altar of the parish church without the castle. This they effected with much difficulty and hazard; and then announced to him their determination to share his fortunes. The other guards awaking soon after his escape, and missing their prisoner, made immediate search for him; and having found him in the church, dragged him from the altar with the crucifix in his hand, and recommitted him to prison. This outrage against the privileges of the church was loudly resented by the clergy. Robert, Bishop of Salisbury instantly repaired hither, and ordered the guards to replace Hubert in the church; but his commands were disobeyed. He first therefore excommunicated the guards, and immediately set off for London, accompanied by Roger, Bishop of London, and other prelates, to remonstrate on the subject with the King. His majesty dreading the power and influence of the bishops, yet anxious to secure Hubert, ordered him to be again conveyed to the church, according to their desire, but at the same time commanded the sheriff

\* Will. Malm. ubi. supra. p. 186.



to blockade it in order to starve the prisoner\*, or force him to surrender. But notwithstanding these precautions, Hubert succeeded once more in effecting his release; and was conducted in safety, to Wales, by a party of armed men under the direction of Gilbert Basset and Richard Siward. What became of him after this period is uncertain. Carte and Henry (in their respective histories) say he was restored again to some degree of precarious favour; but Dr. Davies inclines to think he continued in Wales during the remainder of his life †.

Such are the only incidents connected immediately with the history of the castle as they appear on record. At what time it was dismantled is doubtful, but it is most probable that event happened towards the close of the reign of Edward the Third, as we do not find it had any governor subsequent to the year 1321. In the time of Leland and Camden, as already mentioned, it was greatly impaired, though still possessed of many *vestigia* of its former magnificence and strength. That its government in times was considered a most important office, is sufficiently proved by the high rank and influence of those on whom it was conferred; ‡ and also by the circumstance of its being sometimes granted in dower to the Queen Consort. In the year of Edward I.

\* Matth Paris, p. 368.

† "*Origines Divisionae, or the Antiquities of the Devizes*," by Dr. Davies, 8mo. 1754. This little work, which was designed as a satire upon antiquaries in general, but particularly upon Stukeley and Willis, is nevertheless replete with antiquarian learning, and is written in a lively and interesting style.

‡ The following imperfect list of the wardens of the Castle of Devizes is taken from the "*Origines Divisionae*:"

Philip de Albini, 3 Hen. II. 1156.

Ralph Welington, 17 Hen. III. 1233.

Peter de Rapibus, 18 Hen. III. 1234.

John Plessset, 19 Hen. III. 1235.

Do. 37 Hen. III. 1252.

Robert Neville, Lord Raby, 17 Hen. III. 1257.

Philip Lord Darnley of Wicomb.

Thomas de Spenser, 48 Hen. III. 1263.

Philip

"the king, by way of dower, settled the *castle, town, and park of Devizes*, with the forests of Melksham, Chippenham, and Pewisham, and the manor of *Rowde*, with all appurtenances in Wiltshire, to the amount of 24l. on his Queen Margaret." The same liberties and possessions were likewise granted by Henry VI. to his queen, the celebrated Margaret of Anjou.

In Gough's "British Topography," Wiltshire, the Castle of Devizes is said to have been besieged and taken by Lieutenant General Cromwell, in the year 1645; and following this authority we have repeated the statement in a preceding general narrative of historical events. (p. 24.) Upon strict examination, however, of the different historians of that era we have been unable to discover any mention of such an event; and besides, there is little doubt but the castle was incapable of defence, if not totally destroyed before that period. In Leycesters "Civil Warres of England," 12mo. 1649, it is however related that the town and castle of Devizes was taken the 22d of September, with all the arms and ammunition."

It is also true that this town and vicinity, was the scene of one of the most signal overthrow's sustained by the Parliamentary forces during the course of the rebellion against King Charles I. After the battle of Lansdown, near Bath, the Marquis of Hertford, and Prince Maurice, who commanded for the King, having lost the greater portion of their ammunition, resolved to retreat, and effect a junction with the royal army at Oxford. They accordingly broke up from Marshfield, and were rapidly followed by Sir William Waller with his whole forces.\* On their arrival at Chippenham, finding the enemy pressed hard upon their rear, the royalists halted, and offered them battle; but Sir William having reconnoitred the ground, declined the contest. The Prince and Marquis, therefore, continued their march to Devizes: Sir R<sup>alph</sup>

2 E 3

Repton

Philip Lord Bassett, 54 Hen. III. 1269.

Hugo le Despenser, 1 Edward II. 1307.

Oliver de Ingham 15 Edw. III. 1321.

\* See Vol. XIII. p. 442.

Hopton and the Earl of Marlborough prepared all the means in their power for the defence of Devizes, by casting up ditches and barricading the approaches to the town, to prevent Sir William Waller from breaking in with his cavalry. That officer, however, invested the town as closely as possible; and having constructed a battery on a neighbouring eminence, poured in his shot upon it with great fury, and made several desperate, but ineffectual attempts to force his way into the streets. At the same time, having intelligence of the Earl of Crawford's marching with a supply of powder for the army, he sent a strong detachment to intercept him; and having succeeded in capturing the whole convoy, with the exception of a single troop of horse, he seized the moment of this advantage to urge the besieged to surrender and submit themselves to the Parliament. They, anxious to gain time, consented to treat if a cessation of hostilities was agreed to during the negotiations. This was accordingly granted, but the discussion of the terms of capitulation was scarcely begun, when Waller was compelled to withdraw his troops from before the town, in order to oppose Lord Wilmot, whom the King had dispatched from Oxford, with fifteen hundred horse, and two pieces of artillery to protect the foot in continuing their retreat to the main army. The Parliamentary General drew up his troops on *Roundway Hill*, over which he knew Lord Wilmot was to pass, and there awaited his approach. On his arrival, however, perceiving the small amount of his Lordship's force, he descended the hill, with his whole cavalry, and began the attack with all the confidence of victory. But his calculations of the strength of the royalists were soon proved to be erroneous; for after a severe contest, his hitherto triumphant horse were completely overthrown and dispersed. This done Lord Wilmot immediately charged and captured the artillery, which he turned upon the infantry, who being now also attacked by the troops from Devizes, were mostly either slain or taken prisoners. Sir William Waller fled with a small train to Bristol, leaving behind him more than two thousand

thousand of his troops, besides all his cannon, ammunition, baggages and stores. The loss on the part of the royalists was comparatively inconsiderable.\*

DEVIZES is a Borough of considerable antiquity, and has possessed for several centuries, and still does possess, many important privileges. The first charter to this town upon record was granted by the Empress Maud, but owing to the successful usurpation of Stephen, it remained a "dead letter" till confirmed by her son Henry the Second. King John, Henry the Third, and Edward the Third also granted charters to Devizes, in which they not only renewed all its previous rights, but added others, which placed the burgesses upon an equality with the citizens of Winchester. These deeds were further confirmed, with additional immunities, by Richard the Second, Henry the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth, Edward the Fourth, Henry the Eighth, Edward the Sixth, Queen Elizabeth, King James, and Charles the First; under whose charter the town is now governed, by a mayor, recorder, eleven aldermen or masters, and thirty-six common council-men. The number of burgesses is unlimited, or at least is determinable only at the will of the corporation. The mayor and aldermen have the powers of justices of the peace, and may hold a court of record every Friday, if occasion requires. Devizes sends two representatives to the national councils. It first exercised this right so early as the time of Edward the First, during whose reign it sent members to every parliament summoned, but it only made four returns from the period of his death to the fourth year of Edward the Third. The right of election is vested in the mayor and a select number of burgesses only. The mayor is the returning officer.

Devizes is not mentioned under its present name in Domesday book, a fact which furnishes an additional argument to those

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already

\* History of the Rebellion, &c. during the reign of King Charles the First, by Jacob Flooper, Esq. fol. 1738. p. 279-283.

suggested against its existence at that era.\* By whom it was then possessed is uncertain; nor is it clear whether it belonged to, or constituted a separate lordship, from the castle. We are inclined however to think it was one of the appurtenances of the fortress, and consequently a Royal demesne, as it yet is, and the inhabitants pique themselves on being tenants to the King. †

This town is situated upon elevated ground, and is both extensive and populous. The houses are chiefly constructed of brick, or wood, and are arranged in several streets, some of which are paved, but display much diversity and irregularity of building. The chief trade carried on here is the manufacture of Woollens, which has increased considerably since the completion of the Kennet and Avon Canal, intersecting this portion of the county. The market day is on Thursday, weekly, when there is usually a great supply of corn, wool, cheese, cattle, &c. chiefly the produce of the surrounding country. There was formerly likewise a market for butcher's meat on Tuesday, but this is now discontinued. The fairs are on the 13th February, Holy Thursday, 20th April, 13th June, 5th July, and 2d and 20th October.

The principal public buildings and institutions in this town are the Town-Hall, the New Gaol, the Free Grammar School, the House

\* The etymology of the name, *Devizes*, is equally obscure as the origin of the town itself. That suggested by Stukeley has been already noticed; and we shall only further add that it has been considered as derived from the Latin "*Divisio*," in allusion to a supposed division of lands between King Stephen and Roger, the founder of the castle. William of Malmesbury calls it *Deviseæ*.

† In Madox's *History of the Exchequer* are the two following entries relative to *Devizes* and its castle. 11 Hen. III. 1226. "An accord was made between John Mareschall keeper of the castle of *Devyses*, and the men of that town *de prisio*, concerning the captures made upon the townsmen by the wardens of the castle." Vol. I. p. 765.

38. Hen. III. *Loquendum cum domino rege seu coheiliis suis de militibus Wiltesie qui debuerunt wardas ad castrum de Devyses qui eas subtraxerunt per xx. annos et amplius.*" Vol. II. p. 117. (Note.)

House of Industry, two Parish Churches, one dedicated to St. John and the other to St. Mary, a Chapel of ease, and a Meeting House, appropriated to the public worship of Dissenters.

The *Town-Hall* is a handsome edifice of modern erection, having a semicircular front, with a rustic basement and four ionic pillars attached. The ground floor is used as a cheese market, and above is a large room in which public meetings, balls, and assemblies are held; also a court room and the requisite offices for the transaction of business. The architect of this structure was Thomas Baldwin of Bath.

The *New Gaol* stands on the north west side of the town close to the canal, which from the elevation of Devizes above the general level, has no fewer than twenty locks here, within the space of little more than a mile. This edifice is now rapidly advancing towards completion, under the direction of Mr. Ingleman, architect. It is partly constructed of stone and partly of brick. In the centre is the governor's house, with the infirmary immediately over it. This portion of the structure is of a polygonal shape, as well as the cells immediately around it; between which and the boundary wall, is a considerable space to be laid out in gardens. From the summit of the governor's house the spectator has a most extensive and beautiful prospect towards Bath and Gloucester. The front of this house and the boundary wall are very substantially built of wrought stone.

The *Free Grammar School* is a plain structure, in which nearly a hundred children of both sexes are taught the rudiments of education gratuitously. It is supported entirely by donations and bequests made to it at different periods.

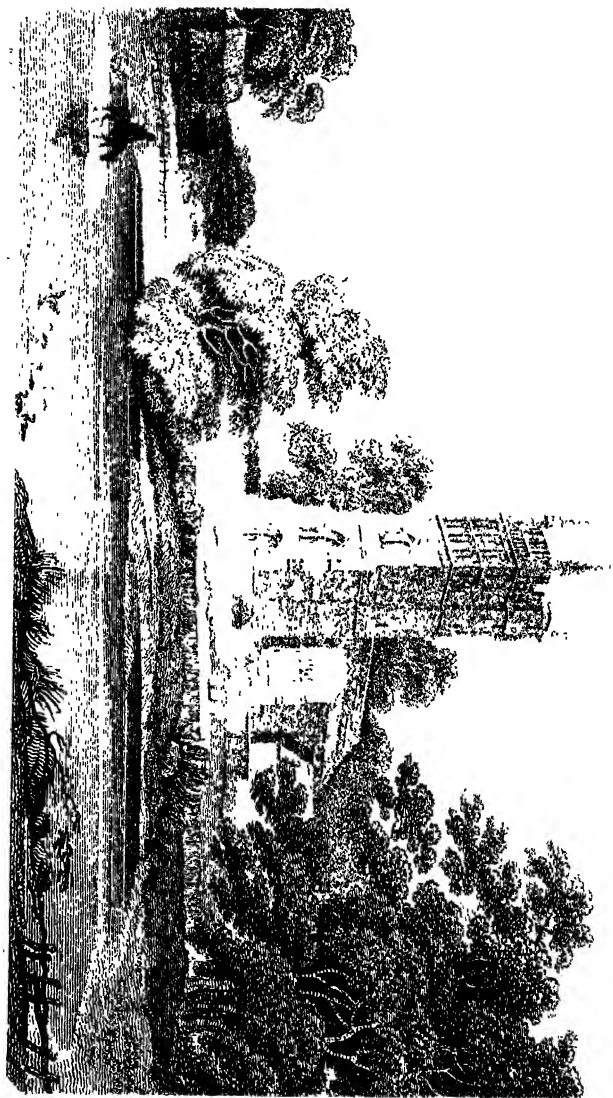
The *House of Industry* consists of some very large premises, originally erected by Mr. Anstie, a celebrated wotton manufacturer, for the purpose of carrying on the cloath trade on an extensive scale. In these the poor are provided with board lodging, and clothing, and have work supplied, which they receive a limited allowance.

*St. John's Church* is one of the most interesting parochial churches

churches to the architectural antiquary in Great Britain. It exhibits in its present form no fewer than four or five distinct styles, characteristic of the taste and science prevalent at the different periods of its construction. Its several parts are a nave, two side aisles, a transept, a chancel, two private chantries or chapels, and a tower. Of these divisions of the church, the oldest are the chancel, tower, and transept, which were most probably built about the same time with the castle, and at the expence and under the direction of its celebrated founder \*. Their masonry is executed with a firmness and substantiality that reflects the highest credit on the artizans employed. Even at the present day it appears as square and solid as when first erected, and fully justifies the eulogium passed upon the works of Bishop Roger, by his cotemporary William of Malmsbury.† The chancel is arched over with bold ribs springing from clustered capitals at the sides; and in the northern wall is still "displayed one of the original windows with a semicircular arch, and ornamented with the zigzag moulding." The other windows in this part of church are modern insertions. The tower is peculiarly curious both with respect to form and ornament; the east and west arches by which it is supported, being semicircular, and the north and south ones pointed, though evidently built at the same time and in the same style of architecture. The whole of these arches and their supporting columns are adorned with representations of foliage and zigzag mouldings; and on the great arch connecting the tower

\* In this opinion the editor has observed in his work entitled "Archæo-Antiquities of Great Britain," that he is supported by the learned Anglo-Saxon professor of the University of Oxford, who in a letter on the subject remarks that in the parts of the church above mentioned, he long ago recognised the magnificence of Bishop of Sarum, whose works in architecture were the wonder of the age in which he lived. The great antiquary was a stranger to the outside of the tower, as well as those within the hall, the north door, the chancel, and the great organ. He submitted to the tower and the perfect arches are so many ocular demonstration of the age of this curious building. Vol. II. p. 4.

† W. Mal. Hist. Script. Eccl. Angl. post Bedam. p. 181.







tower with the nave, is another ornament which we believe to be unique, that is, a series of about forty eight basso-relievo figures, representing a peculiar sort of bottle running round the arch; and in the centre is a key stone, with an angels head and thistles sculptured on it. The abacus, &c. of the capitals is figured with triangular indentations, like the impression of the point of a trowel on clay or mortar. The entrance to the belfry is now from the outside up a circular turret connected with the north western angle of the tower, but formerly a stair case led to it through the north-west pier. This turret is embattled at the top and is terminated by a small spine. The elevation of the tower on the eastern front is divided into two compartments, separated by a cable and plain string moulding. In the lower division are two semicircular headed windows, with a central mullion and cinque and quatrefoil dressings; and in the higher, a series of five semicircular arches, only two of which appear to have been intended as windows.

The other portions of this church are of comparatively modern date, and almost every part of it has undergone a certain degree of alteration at different periods. The chapel on the south side of the chancel, which probably belonged to the Hungerford family, was most likely built in the reign of Henry VIII. for the buttresses, pinnacles, and a niche over the eastern window are all highly decorated. "The other chantry was built by William Coventry; and at the time of dissolving the smaller monastic establishments (2d and 3d of Queen Mary) its incumbent Thomas Hancock was charged with an early revenue of six pounds."

In this church are several marble monuments in honour of the *Heathcotes* and *Suttons*, some of which it seems proper to particularize. One commemorates the *Right Honourable George HEATHCOTE, Lord Mayor of London*, and three times representative for the borough of Devizes in Parliament. This monument displays a medallion portrait of the deceased, with a figure of Britannia weeping over it. From the inscription which offers a long

a long eulogium on his merits, it appears that this gentleman died 7th June 1768, aged 68.

JAMES SUTTON, Esq. of New Park, M. P. for this borough, in four successive parliaments, has a white marble monument placed immediately over the south door of the church. It was executed by Westmacott, and consists of a female figure standing in a niche with her right arm resting on a broken column. The figure is simple and beautiful. Beneath is an inscription which informs us that the deceased was born in July 1733, and died in July 1801; also that he married Eleanor, second daughter of Anthony Addington, Esq. M. D. and sister to the present Lord Sidmouth, by whom he had two sons and three daughters.

Above the north door, is a female figure leaning on an urn, fixed on a pediment. This monument was erected in memory of some of the children of the above Mr. Sutton.

Besides these there are marble monuments to the following persons; *George Wilcy, Esq.* proprietor of New Park anterior to the Sutton's; *Middleton Trollop, Esq.* son to Sir Thomas Trollop of Caswick in Lincolnshire; and *Thomas Thurman* gentleman, who resided in Devizes, and distinguished himself by many charitable donations to the poor, while living, and by a large bequest to them at his death, which occurred in 1777. He also contributed considerable sums towards erecting the altar-piece, and embellishing the chancel of this church. Two boards against the south door commemorate benefactions by Mr. James Milns and Mrs. Joan Bisse, for similar purposes.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH is situated in the north eastern division of the town, and consists of a nave, a chancel, two side aisles, a north and south porch, and a tower, at the west end. From the different styles of its architecture it has evidently been erected at various and distinct periods. The chancel, which is the oldest part of the whole, is in the earliest Norman style, and is therefore supposed to have been built soon after the conquest. The south porch which has a pointed arch with five zigzag mould-

ings, is a good specimen of the English style as it prevailed in the reigns of Henry the Second and Richard the First. The rest of the structure is of a much later date, having been rebuilt by *William Smyth* about the middle of the fifteenth century, as appears by an inscription on the roof of the nave in these words :

“ ORATE PRO ANI WILMI SMYTH QUI HANC  
ECCLESIAM FIERI FECIT, ET QUI OBIT PRIMO DIE  
MENSIS MAII ANNO DNI. MCCCCXXXVI.”

Pray for the soul of William Smyth who caused this church to be rebuilt, and who died the first day of the month of May, in the year of the lord 1436.

This church is entirely constructed of good, firm stone, but is much inferior in its masonry to the church of St. John's. On different parts of the exterior are displayed sculptured heads and grotesque figures of men and of various animals. Under a canopy at the top, at the east end, is a statue of the Virgin Mary with the infant Jesus in her arms, placed on a pedestal having shields sculptured on the plinth, and inscribed with the initials of William Smyth. The tower is of a quadrangular form, and is surmounted by battlements, and with four purfled pinnacles, one at each angle. Similar battlements and pinnacles are disposed round the summit of the body of the church. Passing into the interior the chancel is observed to have the same sort of arched roof as in the church of St. John's, a strong presumptive proof that the era of their construction was the same. The nave is large and lofty, as well as the aisles, from which it is divided on each side, by a series of five arches, springing from octagonal columns. Here the roof is constructed of wood, and is supported by large bracket heads of Kings and Bishops. Between this part of the church and the chancel are small openings designed to show the altar.

Of the monuments in St. Mary's we shall only notice two ; one situated at the south door of the chancel, and another in the nave. The former, which is apparently of very high antiquity, displays

displays a variety of sculptured shields, charged with crosses, and placed under quaterfoil recesses; but having no inscription, the name of the person whom it commemorates is lost. The latter is a marble, mural monument, and bears an inscription in honour of *James Garth, Esq. M. P.* who is eulogized for his loyalty, integrity, and attachment to the cause of freedom. This gentleman died April 5th, 1732.

The *Chapel* of ease belonging to the establishment is under the parochial jurisdiction of Bishops-Canning as the mother church. It is dedicated to *St. James*, and is a neat structure, though nowhere remarkable either for its architecture, or its monuments. It is situated at the eastern extremity of the town. \*

The only religious houses mentioned by Tanner, as being situated in *Devizes*, are two ancient *Hospitals* " in or near *St. John's* church-yard, now under the government of the mayor and corporation; but perhaps formerly in the patronage of the king. One of them was founded for leprous persons before A. D. 1207." .

Among the relics of superstition formerly in this town, and only removed a few years ago, may be noticed an inscription on the base of a pillar in the market-place. It commemorated an event which, ever since its occurrence, has been regarded as a singular mark of the Divine vengeance: a woman who had purchased some corn, was stated to have insisted that she had paid the money for it; and to enforce her assertion repeatedly wished God to strike her dead if she uttered falsehood. Her wish, according to the inscription, was complied with; she fell down lifeless, and the money dropt from her hand!!!

To supply the place of the obelisk a *Market Cross* has been lately erected here, at the sole expense of Lord Sidmouth, as a memorial of his lordship's attachment to the interests of the Borough of *Devizes*, which he represented in several successive Parliaments previous to his elevation to the peerage. It is built entirely of Bath

\* The appended print shows the West end with the adjoining turnpike-house.

Bath stone; and was designed, and executed under the superintendence of Benjamin Wyatt, Esq. architect, who has evinced so much science and taste in the plan and construction of Drury-Lane Theatre. This cross in its low department forms a square, having a buttress at each angle, surmounted by an enriched pinnacle. The spire is an octagon with ribs and crockets at the several angles. This portion of the structure is tastefully decorated with architectural ornaments; but the under part is plain.

Devizes is called by Fuller; in his *Worthies of England*, “the best and biggest town for trading in this shire,” and little doubt can be entertained of its having been in ancient times of more relative importance than at present. Even yet it ranks next to Salisbury for population, containing, according to the Parliamentary returns of 1811, 714 houses, and 3,750 inhabitants. The petty sessions for the Devizes division of the hundred of Pottern and Cannings\* are held here; and in rotation with Salisbury, Wilton, and Warminster, the great sessions for the county also.

Devizes cannot lay claim to much biographical interest. Indeed the only persons of eminence whom we find recorded as natives of this town are Richard of the Devizes, Joseph Allein, a nonconformist divine and writer, and Dr. Philip Stephens.

*Richard of the Devizes* lived in the twelfth century, but the precise period of his birth is unknown. He was bred a Benedictine Friar at Winchester, where he acquired great distinction by his acquisitions in learning. His principal works are a History of the reign of King Richard I. and an Epitome of the British Affairs, both of which he dedicated to Robert, Prior of Winchester. This writer died about the year 1200.

*Joseph Allein* was born in 1633, and was early in life educated for the church. Having attained a competent proficiency in

\* In the *Magna Britannia*, Devizes is stated to be in Swanbourn Hundred; but this we presume to be an error. It is certainly now in the Hundred of Pottern and Cannings, which may however have formerly a subdivision of Swanbourn; but this is mere supposition.

in the learned languages he was sent, at the age of sixteen, to Lincoln College, Oxford, but removed from thence to Corpus Christi College, in 1651, on a Wiltshire scholarship. About three years afterwards he took his first degree in art., and commenced tutor. In 1655, he became assistant in the ministry to Mr. Newton of Taunton, in Somersetshire, where he officiated till the year 1662, when he was ejected for non-conformity. This event, however, did not hinder him from preaching privately; but his zeal unhappily attracted notice, and he was thrown into Ilchester gaol to be tried at the following assizes. He was sentenced to pay a hundred marks, and to remain in prison till the fine was discharged. He accordingly continued in confinement above a year; by which his health suffered material injury, yet he was no sooner released than he applied himself to the ministry with the same earnestness as before. This warmth for the interests of religion again subjected him to imprisonment for sixty days, which so broke his debilitated constitution, that he scarcely survived the period of his freedom three years, having died in November 1668, at the age of thirty-five. His body was buried in the church of St. Magdalen, at Taunton, with the following inscription on his gravestone:

"Here Mr. Joseph Allen lies,

"To God and you a sacrifice."

The writings of this divine are numerous, and characterized, according to his biographer, by a genuine spirit of piety towards God, and benevolence towards men. Some of them have been deemed worthy of being frequently reprinted during the last century.\*

*Dr. Philip Stephens* was born in the early part of the seventeenth century. He was educated for the profession of medicine in St. Alban's Hall, Oxford, where he took his degrees, and shortly after elected Fellow of New College, by the visitors in 1655,

\* Chalmers's General Biographical Dictionary, 8vo.







1655, whence he was translated as principal to Hart Hall. He was conjoint author with Mr. Brown of a work entitled "*Catalogus Horti Botanici Oxonienses.*" &c. published in 1658. Dr. Stephens died in London a short time subsequent to the Restoration.

In the immediate vicinity of Devizes were found, in 1714, a collection of small images, supposed to be of Roman workmanship. Stukeley says, "they were found in a cavity inclosed with Roman brick," where was likewise deposited a wine vessel, which held about six gallons, and a coin of the Emperor Severus. These antiquities were for some time exhibited as a show; and, in 1717, the images were engraved at the expence of Sir Robert Eyre, and published by William Musgrave, son to Dr. Musgrave, who afterwards inserted an account of them in his "*Belgium Britannicum.*" This learned antiquary, as well as Stukeley, pronounces them to be Roman Penates, or household gods; and such some of them may be, but certainly not the whole. There were nineteen figures, mostly of a bronze metal; and are said by Musgrave and Stukeley to have represented Venus, Mercury, Mars, and other heathen deities. According to the views of those engraved by Mr. Burghers, they appear to be of very bad execution.

At a short distance from Devizes, on the road to Bishops-Cannings, is a pillar, with the following inscription: "*Qui Coluere Coluntur. An. Dom. 1771.*:"—This monument, from a general sense of gratitude, was erected to the memory of *James Long*, of Widhampton, Esq. whose public spirit, which he ever exercised for the service of mankind, was remarkably exerted in planning, promoting, and completing this new road, Anno Domini 1768.

**NEW-PARK**, situated about a mile to the north-east of Devizes, is the seat of Thomas Estcourt, Esq. in right of his wife, only daughter and heiress of the late James Sutton, Esq. and niece to the present Lord Sidmouth. The house, erected by Samuel

Wyatt, architect, stands on rising ground, whence there is a charming and extensive view. In front of the house is a large deer park, in which Mr. Repton observes, that "all the materials of natural landscape seem to be collected, if not actually displayed." The surface of the ground offers almost every possible variety of shape and appearance; and is "enriched by woods of various growth and species, either collected in ample masses, or lightly scattered in groups and single trees."

In the house are a few good pictures,—1st. A Portrait of the Right Honourable Henry Addington, (now Lord Sidmouth) in his robes as Speaker of the House of Commons, executed by Copley.—2d. Rustic Figures, in a Landscape, by Morland; and 3dly, A Landscape, with Figures, &c. by Gainsborough.

North from New-Park, about a mile and a half, is **ROUNDWAY-HILL**, already mentioned as the scene of the total rout of the parliamentary forces under Sir William Waller in the year 1644. This hill constitutes the western termination of the Marlborough Downs, or hills, which intersect the county nearly in the centre, running in a direction from north-east to south-west. On its summit the remains of a strong encampment, usually called *Roundaway-Castle*, are still distinctly apparent. It is of an irregular form, measuring, according to Mr. Aubrey, four hundred and twenty feet on the south side, four hundred and eighty feet on the north side, four hundred and fifty feet on the east, and one hundred and eleven feet on the west. There are two entrances into the area of the entrenchment, one opening to the west, and another to the east.

Under the northern declivity of Roundaway-Hill is situated the small village of **HEDDINGTON**, near which Stukeley has rightly fixed the *Acetia* of Antoninus; though, as the reader will no doubt have observed several other places, viz. Devizes, Warminster, and Westbury, are each contended for as the site of that Station. What in particular renders Stukeley's opinion on this subject correct, is the fact of the great Roman road from London

to Bath passing close to the spot on which the town is supposed to have stood. That Heddington at all events was a Roman station is beyond question, as numerous foundations of the buildings of that people have been discovered here, spread over a considerable extent of ground. Many coins, urns, and household utensils have likewise been dug up in this vicinity; and the appearance of the soil indicates extensive population.

The village of Heddington is deeply embosomed in trees. The church consists of a nave, chancel, two aisles, with a small vestry on the north side. In the south aisle is a very old table, covered with the tattered remains of the Book of Martyrs, inscribed thus: "1628. Book of Martyrs given by John and Joan Hutchins." Here is also hung up a coffin, in a very worm-eaten state, without any date or writing upon it. According to the information of the sexton, it has been suspended in the same place for many years, and was directed to be so by a person of the parish, who chose to be buried without any other covering than the earth.

*Bagdon-Hill*, to the south-east of Heddington, is characterized by Stukeley as the site of a Roman encampment, which he says has been left apparently unfinished, "or made for but a small time of abode upon an expedition; for neither the vallum nor ditch is of any great strength: it is situated on a very convenient promontory, or rather peninsula of high ground, the steepness whereof is a guard to three sides of it; the other has the slender vallum, made chiefly of the surface of the earth thrown up a little."\*

BROMHAM, or BREMHAM, is a small village situated about three miles north-west from Devizes. In the reign of Edward the Confessor this place was the lordship of Harold, Earl of the West Saxons, and afterwards king of England, who was slain at the battle of Hastings, when all his estates were seized by the Con-

queror. How long it continued in the Crown is uncertain;\* but, in the time of Henry VI. we find it possessed by William Beauchamp, Lord St. Amand, who had a seat here, which he left, with his other estates, to Richard, his son and heir. This nobleman having no issue, the estate of Bromham devolved to his cousin, John Baynton, son of Sir Robert Baynton, of Falstone, Kut. who had been attainted in the twelfth year of Henry IV. but whose son was restored 19 Henry VII. In this family the property of Bromham has continued ever since; but the Baynton's have for many years abandoned their seat called Bromham Hall, or House, for that of Spye-Park, some description of which will be given in the sequel.

Bromham Hall, as appears from Leland, was built in a great measure with the materials furnished by the ruins of Devizes castle. It was destroyed by fire a considerable time ago, since which part of the stones composing it have been employed in erecting the Lodge at Spye-Park.

In a field near the site of the old house, were discovered, in 1767, a Roman bath, and some pieces of tessellated pavement, one of which was in a very perfect condition.† This circumstance, and the variety of places in the vicinity having the adjunct street to their characteristic names, plainly indicate the proximity of Bromham to the Roman station at Hed-dington.

The church of this village is a large structure, and consists of a chancel, two aisles, and a chapel, or chantry, on the south-east. This chapel appears to have been erected at the same time, and by the same persons, as that appended to St. John's Church, Devizes. The frieze and cornice of the exterior are charged with roses, two chains, and various quarterings of arms; and at the  
ends

\* An article signed J. Monk, in the Gentleman's Magazine for November, 1798, states that the manor of Bromham was given by William Rufus to the abbey of Battel in Sussex. For this statement, however, we have been unable to discover any authority.

† British Topography, by Gough, Vol. II. p. 384, note.

ends of the mouldings around the windows are sculptured angels holding shields. The figure of an angel is also placed over the east window, supporting naked figures of children; and over the west window is a canopy similar to that at Devizes. The interior of this chapel is painted and embellished with gilt ornaments of different kinds on a blue ground. From the number of nails fixed in the wall, it is conjectured that it was hung round with pieces of armour and warlike trophies, but only two helmets and two flags now remain, with part of a doublet, and gloves. Here are several monuments of the Baynton family, some of which claim our attention.

At the south-east angle of the chapel is an ancient tomb of Purbeck marble in honour of *Sir Edward Baynton*, and his two wives. It is placed under a canopy in the wall, on which are six figures inlaid in brass, with the family arms. These represent the knight, (who appears kneeling at an altar,) his two wives, and three of their children. Underneath is the following inscription:

Here lyeth Sir Edward Baynton, knight, within the marble clad;  
By Agnes Ryce his first true wyfe that thyrteen children had;  
Whereof she left alive with him at her departure three,  
Henry, Anne, Elizabeth, whose pictures here you see,  
The 29th day of August she deceased of Christ the yere, }  
These little figures standing represent the number here. } 1574.  
Then married to Anne Dakington his bound wyfe she was,  
For whose remembrance here entombed these lyues he left in brass.

Anno Dom. 1578.

A small, neat mural monument of marble against the south wall commemorates "*Lady Anne Wilmot*, eldest daughter and co-heir of John, Earl of Rochester. She was the wife of Henry Baynton, Esq.; and, after his decease, of the Hon. Francis Greville, obijt Aug. 8th, 1703."

Against the chancel wall is another monument under a canopy, with a female figure inlaid in brass, having a scroll issuing from

the mouth, the letters of which are nearly obliterated. On this tomb are these inscriptions: "*Sir Edward Baynton*, Knight of the Bath, son and heir of Sir Edward Baynton, Kt. obiit 2 September, 1679, Et. 61 — *Henry Baynton*, Esq. son and heir of Sir Edward Baynton, Knt. of the Bath, obiit 11 July, 1691, Et. 27. — *John Baynton*, Esq. only son of Henry Baynton, by Lady Anne Wilmot. He was the 19th in lineal descent from Sir Henry Baynton, Knight, Marshal of the Household to Henry the Second. Obiit 21 April, 1716, Et. 22."

On the floor is a brass figure in armour, with this inscription also in brass round the margin of the stone:

"Orate pro Aia Johis Baynton Armigeri filii et hæred Roberti Baynton militis consanguinis et hæredis Ricardi Beauchamp domini de Sco Amando qui obiit ultima die Octobris Anno Dni Millesimo D. C. XVI. .... Aia propitietur Deus, Amen."

Near this is a large tomb of Purbeck marble, supporting a male figure in armour, sculptured in alabaster, and lying with a dog at the feet. The inscription is obliterated; but it is known to be the monument of one of the Lords Beauchamp.

A mural stone here is inscribed with the following lines to the memory of *Henry Seasons*, M. D. who died November 10, aged 82 years. He was projector and author of an Almanack called "*Season, on the Seasons*."

" 'Tis not the tomb in marble polish'd high,  
The sculptured urn or glittering trophies nigh;  
The classic learning on an impious stone,  
Where Latin tells what English blush'd to own;  
Can shroud the guilty from the eye of God,  
Incline his balance or avert his rod.  
That hand can raise the cripple and the poor,  
Spread on the way, or gathered at the door,  
And blast the villain though to altar's fled,  
Who robs us living, and insults us dead.

J. ROGER."

Besides

Besides these there are a variety of other tombs and inscriptions in this church, several of them to the memory of persons who had lived to a very advanced age. One of these is inscribed thus :

“ Robert Gaby, Sept. 1766, in the 91st year of his age—  
 In *blissful* health my time run on,  
 Till I was almost ninety-one ;  
 And then my God did mildly say,  
 Prepare thyself and come away.”

The Rev. *John Collinson*, author of “*Beauties of British Antiquity*,” 8vo. 1799; and “*the History and Antiquities of Somersetshire*,” 3 vols. 4to. was rector of this place when he published the former work. There is no account of this author in any of the Biographical Dictionaries.

GEORGE WEBBE, a prelate of eminence in the seventeenth century, was a native of Bromham. The period of his birth is uncertain, as well as the incidents of his early life. In the reign of James I. he held the rectory of St. Peter and Paul in Bath : and on the accession of the first Charles was appointed one of his Majesty's chaplains. In 1634 he was consecrated Bishop of Limerick in Ireland, which he enjoyed till the year 1641, when he was thrown into prison by the Irish rebels, and fell a victim to the gaol fever. Bishop Webbe was esteemed one of the best preachers of his age ; and it must be allowed that his compositions, still extant, are written in a purer and more elegant style than those of his cotemporaries. His chief publications were a translation of some of the comedies of Terence, several treatises and sermons on practical religion, and various books for the use of schools.\*

SPYE-PARK, the seat of Sir Andrew Baynton Rolt, Baronet, of Sacombe Park, Hertfordshire, is situated about two miles to the north of Bromham village, and close to the great Roman Road from London to Bath. The house stands upon lofty  
 2 F 4 ground



ground near the south-west extremity of the appendant park, and commands a very fine distant prospect; but the great havock made among the trees by the present owner has much injured the proximate scenery. Spye-Park, indeed, from being one of the best wooded spots in the county, is now disrobed of a great part of its valuable trees. The mansion is an old structure, but is fitted up in front in a modern style. In the reign of the second Charles it was the property and occasional residence of *John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester*, celebrated at once for his wit, his profligacy, and his poetical talents. Lord Orford says of him, that he was a man whom the muses loved to inspire, but were ashamed to avow.\*

The

\* John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester, was the son of Henry Wilmot, Viscount Wilmot in Ireland, who had been raised to the English earldom of Rochester by Charles II. during his exile in France, in reward for having been highly instrumental in preserving the king's life after the battle of Worcester. He succeeded his father at an early age; and, after the Restoration, became the leading character among the men of wit and pleasure at the court of Charles II. "He possessed," says Granger, "an elegant person, an easy address, and a quickness of understanding and invention almost peculiar to himself; and what may now perhaps seem improbable, he had natural modesty. He entered with blushes in his face into the fashionable vices of this reign; but he well knew that even these vices would recommend him, and only be considered as so many graces added to his character. His strong and lively parts quickly enabled him to go far beyond other men in irregularities, and he soon became one of the most daring profligates of his age.—He was in a continued state of intoxication for several years together; and the king, who admired his sallies of wit and humour, was more delighted with his company when he was drunk than with any other man's when sober. He was ever engaged in some amour or other, and frequently with women of the lowest order, and the vilest prostitutes of the town. He would sometimes upon these occasions appear as a beggar or a porter; and he as well knew how to assume the character as the dress of either. After he run the giddy round of his pleasures, his eyes were open to conviction; and he became the Christian and the penitent." In his last moments he was attended by Bishop Burnet, who afterwards wrote and published an account of his life and death; a work, which Dr. Johnson remarks, "the critic ought to read

The family of Baynton is of very high antiquity. From a pedigree of the same preserved in the British Museum, it appears that in the time of Henry II. Sir Henry Baynton was one of the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, and held the office of knight marshal to the king, which was a post of great trust and authority in those days. His second son, Henry, also a knight of St. John of Jerusalem, was slain in Bretagne in 1201. Sir John Baynton, knight, was sheriff, 8 Henry IV. This gentleman married Joan, daughter of Sir Richard Dudley, by whom he had issue Sir John Baynton, of Falstone, county of Wilts, knight, temp. Edward IV. who by Jane, daughter of Sir William Ichingham, Knt. had Sir Robert Baynton, attainted in the twelfth year of the same king. He left issue a son, John Baynton, of Bromham, (cousin and heir of Richard Beauchamp, Lord St. Amand,) who married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Digges, Esq. by whom he had a son, Sir Edward Baynton, Knt. and sheriff of Wiltshire 13 Henry VIII. He was twice married, and had issue by his first wife, Andrew Baynton, Esq. of Bromham; and, by his second, Sir Edward Baynton, of Rawdon, who succeeded his brother as heir male. Sir Edward had a son, Sir Henry Baynton, of Bromham, Knt. who married Lucy, daughter of Sir John Danvers, of Dantsey, and left issue Sir Edward Baynton, of Bromham, sheriff 13 Charles I. By his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Henry Maynard, of Eston, in Essex, this gentleman had a son, Edward, who was made a knight of the Bath at the Restoration, and was father of Henry, who married a daughter and co-heir of the Earl of Rochester above mentioned, by whom he had a son,

read for its elegance, the philosopher for its arguments, and the saint for its piety." The publications of Lord Rochester are numerous, and display great fertility of invention, but are fraught with indelicate sentiment and obscene wit. Those among his productions which display the most talent, his Satire against Mankind, and his Poem on Nothing — Granger's Biographical History, Vol. III. 205... Park's Edition of the Earl of Orford's Catalogue of the Royal and Noble Authors of England, Scotland, and Ireland, Vol. III. p. 234 et seq.

son, and a daughter, Anne, who married Edward Rolt, Esq. of Sacombe Park, county of Hertford, whose second son, the late Sir Edward Baynton Rolt, was adopted by his uncle, and was created a baronet July 9, 1762.\* Sir Edward died January 1800, when he was succeeded by his son, the present baronet.† Spyre-Park is now occupied by Colonel Thornton, a gentleman much noted in the annals of sporting and racing.

SEEN, or SEEND-GREEN, a small, pleasant village, is situated about midway between Devizes and Melksham. This place was formerly the lordship and estate of Hugh Despenser, Earl of Winchester, upon whose attainder it was granted by Edward III. to Edward de Bohun, Earl of Hereford and Essex. From him it descended to his brother, Humphry, who obtained leave of the king to fortify and embattle his manor-house here. This nobleman was one of the select lords who were admitted to the great feast and jousts held for the love of the Countess of Salisbury, from whose garter it is said the king instituted the noble order which still preserves its name and dignity. At his death Seend became the property of his nephew, Humphry, son of William de Bohun, Earl of Northampton, and continued in his posterity for several successions. It subsequently, however, came into the possession of the Seymours, Dukes of Somerset, and was the chief residence of the late Lord William Seymour, uncle to the present duke.

EAST-LAVINGTON, STEEPLE-LAVINGTON, or MARKET-LAVINGTON,‡ as it is commonly called, is situated about five miles southward from Devizes, immediately beneath the ridge of hills forming the northern confines of Salisbury Downs. It appears to have

\* The Topographer, Vol. II. p. 105.

† The late Sir Edward Baynton was a man of considerable eminence in public life. He sat several times in Parliament for Chippenham; and is noted in the history of electioneering on account of his strenuous and successful contest for the representation of that borough against the celebrated Sir Robert Walpole.

‡ It frequently occurs in old deeds under the name Cheping-Lavington, the word Cheping signifying market.

have been formerly a considerable town, and to have possessed a weekly market, and fairs. Both these privileges, however, have been long discontinued, and the town is now reduced in size and consequence\*. The manor here was long the property of the Dukes of Lancaster, and after them of the Beauchamps, Lord St. Amand. At the commencement of the last century it was possessed by Montague, Earl of Abingdon, and now belongs to the Earl of Radnor.

Lavington church stands on a lofty eminence at the western side of the village. The style of its architecture is the later pointed. At the west end is a large door-way with a window over it, placed in a sort of recess, ornamented with panelling and tracery. This is rather a peculiar feature in the construction of the church, and seems to mark it of the age of Henry VII. or of his predecessor Richard III. In this church are several monuments and inscriptions which claim our notice.

On a board against one of the columns is an inscription, by which it appears that “ Thomas Tanner, Lord Bishop of St. Asaph, a native of this place, bequeathed a donation of 200*l.* to purchase an estate in Patney, Wilts, the rent arising from which was to be applied in manner following: viz. For the minister thirteen shillings and fourpence; for four bibles for the use of the poor; one pound towards the education of three poor children; one pound to be spent at a friendly meeting of the inhabitants; one pound for the ringers for two short peals; six shillings for  
the

\* The discontinuance of the market here, and the consequent decline of the town has doubtless been occasioned by the greater attraction of the markets of Devizes, and other towns in the western parts of Wiltshire. The vulgar, however, assign a different cause, viz. the erection of turnpikes, and the levying tolls upon the roads: which circumstance, they say, prevent the farmer from bringing his produce to-market. This is of course absurd: but it should be known, that though turnpike gates are raised here, and tolls demanded, the roads are very bad. For an extent of nearly two miles, on the downs north of the town, the track, or course (for there is no road) is dangerous to pass with carriages.

the sexton, and three shillings for the clerk, to be distributed on St. Paul's day.

Here is also a marble, mural slab, with a female figure reclining on an urn, sculptured in bas relief. It is inscribed to the memory of Thomas Sainsbury, Esq. who was born December 25, 1730; and died May 16, 1795. He was alderman of the ward of Billingsgate, in 1778, sheriff of London and Middlesex, Sep. 1780, and Lord Mayor of London in 1786.

*Dr Thomas Tanner*, Bishop of St. Asaph, one of the most learned, laborious, and useful antiquarian writers of England, was born at Market-Lavington, in 1671. His father, who was vicar of the parish, bestowed great care on his education, and sent him at the proper age to Queen's College, Cambridge, where he took the degree of B. A. and entered into holy orders at Christmas, 1694. In the January immediately succeeding he became chaplain of All Souls, of which college he was chosen fellow in 1697. About four years afterwards he obtained the Chancellorship of Norwich, and the rectory of Thorpe. In September 1713, he was installed prebendary of Ely; in December 1721, Archdeacon of Norfolk; canon of Christ Church, February 3, 1723-4; prolocutor of the lower house of convocation convened in 1727, a distinction which he received with great unwillingness, and which was conferred solely in testimony of his great learning and abilities. In January 1731, he reached his highest dignity, having been consecrated Bishop of St Asaph, in Wales, on the 23d day of that month in the same year. He did not, however, long enjoy his new preferment; as his death occurred December 14, 1735, at Christ Church, Oxford, when he was buried in the nave of that cathedral; and wherein a monument was erected to his memory.

Bishop Tanner commenced his literary career at a very early period of life. In a letter to Dr. Rawlinson, dated Oct. 1735, we are furnished with some curious facts on this head: "I am very glad my present book to Dr. Finch is fallen into your hands; there were but ten printed in that royal paper, all which I gave away;

away; but none of them bound as that was. I am not unmindful of the scarcity of that little book compiled when I was scarce twenty years old, and am, as fast as my leisure will permit, preparing for a new edition, to which end I have fairly transcribed as far as the middle of Yorkshire, and want only the remainder of that county, and Wales, to revise and transcribe, which, if it please God to allow me health, and give me no avocations, I hope to finish by the spring, and then put it to the press, which I was not willing to do before all was ready, knowing the *tormenting of devils, printers, and booksellers for copy, &c.* Though I keep to the old method, yet in my new way I believe it will amount to 200 sheets and upwards, and must be in small folio.”\* The first edition, alluded to above, of the Bishop’s *Notitia* was published in 5vo. 1695; and again, after his death, in 1744, under the title of “*Notitia Monastica; or an account of all the abbies, priories, and houses of friars, heretofore in England and Wales; and also of all the colleges and hospitals founded before A. D. 1540,*” being published by John Tanner, A. M. vicar of Lowestoff, and brother to the bishop. This work is one of the most valuable and comprehensive volumes, ever laid before the British public; and contains more distinct references to original documents, manuscripts, and printed works than perhaps any other book in the English language. The period occupied in its compilation is a sufficient proof of the labour expended upon it, if any other were wanting besides a view of the book itself. It has since undergone another edition under the direction of the late learned Mr. *Nasmith*, but a great part of that edition was destroyed by a fire in 1808, in Mr. Nichol’s warehouse. The only other printed work of Bishop Tanner’s is his “*Bibliotheca Britannico-Hibernica,*” which had engaged his attention, in conjunction with the *Notitia* upwards of forty years, and which he likewise left unfinished at his death. It was published in 1748, by Dr. *David Wilkins*, canon of Canterbury, from the materials collected by his lordship, and is certainly a most useful repository of our writers, so far

\* “Letters written by eminent Persons,” &c. Vol. II. p. 102.

far as it goes, which is to the commencement of the seventeenth century. Bishop Tanner's valuable MS. collections are deposited in the Bodleian library at Oxford. Among them are some memoranda for a history of the county of Wilts; also copious notes on Richard Haggess' Legend of St. Cuthbert, 1663. Many interesting particulars of his lordship may be seen in his own letters in Ballard's Collection, and also in Aubrey's "Letters from eminent men in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries," lately published from the originals in the Bodleian Library. Some account of him is likewise given in Gough's "British Topography," and in Nichol's Literary Anecdotes of the Eighteenth Century. Vol. II, p. 161—163.

WEST-LAVINGTON, or BISHOP'S-LAVINGTON, is a village and parish situated to the west of Market-Lavington, as its name implies. The manor here was formerly the property of the Danvers and Dantseys, and afterwards of the Earl of Abingdon, who had a splendid seat within the parish; but it is now held by the Earl of Radnor, under the Bishops of Salisbury. In this village are an *Alms-house* and freeschool, both of which were founded and endowed by *William Dantsey*, of Mercer's Hall, London, in the year 1542. The church is a large building, in the early pointed style of architecture, consisting of a nave, two side aisles, a tower at the western end, a chancel and two chapels, or chantries, on the south side. It contains several monumental erections. In the chancel are two marble slabs, one of which commemorates *Thomas Hunt*, Esq. of this place; and in the chapel adjoining is a small newly erected slab, to the memory of *Thomas-a Beckett*, Esq. lineal descendant from the ancient family of the Becketts of Littleton Pagnell\*, who died February 1st, 1792. Here is also an inscription specifying that: "*Mr. Hen. Penruddocke*, Gent. was slain by a souldier of the contrary party, and was buried here, December 31, 1644."

In

\* The Manor of Littleton Pagnell is now the property of the Earl of Radnor.

In the "Lord's Aile," which is a chantry, or chapel, formerly appropriated as the burying-place of the *Danvers*, or *Dantseys*, are two old altar-tombs erected in honour of persons of that family. One of them supports a statue of a female, sculptured in alabaster. Near it is another monument also, bearing the statue of a female much dilapidated; and likewise a white marble slab, inscribed to the memory of *Henry Danvers*, Esq. son and heir to Sir John Danvers, Knight. On some brasses attached to the tombs and floor, are long inscriptions, commemorating many particulars of the persons, and family of the deceased. In a subsequent account of *Dantsey*, near Malmsbury, we shall have occasion to relate some of these particulars.

To the south of the Lavingtons is a large farm called *Gore Farm*, which pays 50l. per annum to the Dantsey Almshouse. On this farm was anciently a Chapel, now completely demolished. The *Ridgeway* passes over the ridge of the Downs here; upon which is a spot still retaining the name of *St. Joan a Gores Cross*; but we have been unable to ascertain the origin of the appellation. Nearer Lavington on the east side of the *Ridgeway* are the remains of a small square earthen work.

*Cheverel-Magna* and *Cheverel-Parva*, are two small villages situated to the north west of Bishop's Lavington. The manor of the former constitutes part of the original endowment of Heytesbury Hospital. The living belongs to the Earl of Radnor, and is now very worthily filled by the Rev. Mr. Richards.

*STOKE-PARK*, the seat of Joshua Smith, Esq. is situated about seven miles south-west from Devizes. This estate was purchased by its present proprietor, from Peter Delme, Esq. about the year 1780, since which period, it has been so completely altered and improved as scarcely to retain any of its original features. The former house, which was anciently a family mansion of the Dukes of Bolton, has been removed and a new and elegant modern structure erected in its stead. This occupies the summit of an eminence at a short distance from the turnpike road between Devizes and



and Westbury. It was begun in 1786, and took five years in building. The architect from whose designs it was constructed and who also superintended its erection was George Stewart, Esq. The house and offices extend from east to west, three hundred and fifty-six feet in front; in the centre of which is a Doric colonnade, which opens into a handsome hall forty feet in length by thirty-two in breadth. It is ornamented with a screen of six fluted Corinthian columns, and communicates to the drawing room, dining room, library, &c. The first of these apartments is decorated with several paintings 'copied by the Miss Smiths', from the most celebrated masters; and the library contains a valuable collection of books. A large landscape by Loutherbouurg ornaments the breakfast room, which with a dressing room, and the rooms before mentioned, constitute the ground suite of apartments. On the first floor are several bed chambers and dressing rooms, which are approached through a gallery distinguished by the style and beauty of its architecture. Above are many good rooms, and on each side of the house is a low wing appropriated as servants lodgings and offices.

The park around the house is of considerable extent, and well wooded, both with old and young trees. It is also enriched with a fine expanse of water. Over the road, which being hollowed out of the sand to a great depth is not visible from the windows, a bridge is thrown to connect the divided portions of the lawn; and about a mile from the south front of the house rises a bold eminence, (the termination of one of the ridges of Salisbury plain) the sides and summit of which are thickly planted with wood. The pleasure ground is both peculiar in situation and character. It occupies a narrow, winding valley, through the centre of which runs a rivulet: the waters of this fall over several cascades in their progress from the side of the hills to the park. It may be confidently said that few spots, in England, present such a series of sylvan beauties:—such a combination of lawn, hill, vale, waters, and diversified plantations. Connected with this spot is the retired, neat, and truly rustic village of *Earl-Stoke*. This consists

consists of several cottages placed on the sides of the road, each detached from the others, and every one accompanied by its garden, creepers, trees, jasmines, honeysuckles, &c. The scene is singularly pleasing to the philanthropist, and seems a sort of illustration of Arcadian romance.

Earl-Stoke was anciently the Lordship of the Monthermers, Earls of Gloucester and Hertford, and afterwards of the Montacutes, Earls of Salisbury, from whom it passed into the possession of the crown. Earl-Stoke was the birth place of *William Goffe*, author of "*Londinum Triumphans*," published in 1632.

EDDINGTON, is a small village agreeably situated in the valley which separates South from North Wiltshire, on the road from Lavington to Westbury, and at the distance of about four miles from the latter place. It is chiefly remarkable for its fine church, and as being the birth place of William de Eddington, Bishop of Winchester. It is also noted however as the supposed Ethandun of Asser and of the Saxon Chronicle. The bishops of Salisbury had a palace here, which was plundered and destroyed in the time of Jack Cade's rebellion, 1450; when the venerable Bishop Ayseough was dragged from the altar in the chapel, while he was officiating, and was stoned to death on a neighbouring eminence. (Vide ante, p. 138.) Eddington formerly constituted the lordship and seat of *Sir William Paulett*, Knt. natural son of William, third Marquis of Winchester.

The Church at Eddington is a large, handsome and interesting edifice. It is built of hewn stone, and in its windows, niches, and ornaments, presents some fine examples of ecclesiastical architecture. The whole consists of a nave, transept, chancel, central tower, two aisles to the nave, and a lofty south porch. The west front presents an uniform elevation: a central doorway, divided into two openings, a large window of eight dayes, or lights, and two lateral windows to the aisles. The nave is divided from the aisles by six lofty arches on each side. Under one of these arches is a large altar tomb, beneath a flat canopy. It formerly had brasses, and shields with arms. Here is also a small marble

slab to the memory of *William Long*, Esq. of Baynton House, who died 10th June, 1807, aged 73. At the end of the south transept is a large, and very curious altar monument, with a canopy, statue, and various ornaments. The statue represents a priest, with a large ton at his feet, having a bolt inserted in the bung hole. A similar figure appears on a shield. The letters J. B. and a triangle appear also on the tomb. The brasses are removed. The interior of the chancel is lighted by seven large and lofty windows, between which are niches, with canopies, &c. This chancel appears to have been built, or finished by Bishop Eddington, as his bust and arms appear in several parts. On the right hand side of the chancel is a large marble monument, containing two effigies of the persons interred; the male one in armour, and the female in the dress of Charles the Second's time. The figures of two boys and three girls are represented kneeling at the plinth. The following inscription shews to whose memory and by whom it was erected:

“ The right worshipful Sir EDWARD LEWYS, late of the Vane, in the county of Glamorgan, Knt. one of the gentlemen of the privy chamber to Prince Henry, adviser to King Charles; and of the right honourable Ann Lady Beauchamp, daughter of Robert, Earl of Dorset, by the Lady Margaret Howard, sole daughter of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk. Issue living four sonnes, Edward, Richard, William, and Robert, and one daughter, Ann Lewys. He departed 10th October, 1630. In memory of whom his mouthful lady erected this monument for him and herself, who died 25th September, 1664.”

Since Children are the corner stone,

Where marriage, built on both sides meet together;

Whilst they survive, our lives shall have extent

Upon record, in them our monument.

This church, according to Tanner, was anciently a prebend of the abbey of Rümsey in Hants, and is said to have been worth

worth one hundred marks and upwards per annum. William of Eddington who probably built the greater part of the present structure, founded therein to the honour of the "Blessed Virgin, St. Katharine and All Saints, a large chantry or college of a dean and twelve ministers, whereof part were prebendaries, about the year 1347. These were afterwards, at the desire of the Black Prince, changed into a reformed sort of friars of the order of St. Austin, called Bonhommes, who were settled here under the government of a rector, A. D. 1358. Its yearly revenues at the suppression amounted to 442l. 9s. 7d. ob. Dugdale;—and 521l. 12s. 5d. ob. Speed. The site was granted to Sir Thomas Seymour, 33 Henry VIII. and to William Paulett, Lord St. John, 3 Edward VI."\*

WILLIAM DE EDDINGTON, Bishop of Winchester, as his name implies, was a native of this village. The exact period of his birth is unknown, as is likewise the condition of his parents, nor indeed is any thing further recorded of his early life, except that he was educated at Oxford, and was a proficient in the scholastic learning and knowledge of his age. He was a great favourite with Edward the Third, through whose influence he was elected to the bishopric of Winchester; and who held his political talents in such high estimation that he conferred upon him the important office of Lord High Treasurer of England. In that difficult post he conducted himself with great ability, and is only accused of diminishing the weight of some of the smaller coins then current, by which means, "the price of labour, and of every other commodity was much increased in nominal value."† An accusation, says Dr. Milner, which "argues an ignorance of the principles of finance. The depreciation of the specie was in the first instance a benefit to government, which the enormous expences of the war probably rendered unavoidable; but in the second place, the lessening of its real, could not fail to affect its nominal value, and

\* Notitia Monastica, Wiltshire.

† Godwin de Praeambulis, p. 289.

thus produce the consequence complained of." \* In 1350, when the King instituted the Order of the Garter, Eddington was appointed King's prelate, or Chancellor of the Order, which honour was to descend to his successors in the bishopric. In 1357, he was promoted to the rank of Lord Chancellor, and about nine years afterwards was elevated to the highest dignity in the English church, the metropolitan see of Canterbury. This preferment, however, he declined to accept; some say on account of his advanced age; while others attribute his refusal to a motive of avarice, putting into his mouth the following expression: "Though Canterbury is the higher rack, yet Winchester is the richer manger." †. But that no such feeling as avarice can have operated on Eddington's conduct is proved by his uniform and acknowledged liberality. Besides erecting and endowing the house of Bonhommes already mentioned, he was a great benefactor to many other religious institutions; particularly to his cathedral church, where, to use the words of Dr. Milner, "his memory has not obtained that consideration to which it is entitled. The fact is, he actually began the great work of rebuilding the nave, the whole credit of which is ascribed to his successor; and he provided a considerable sum for carrying it on after his death. He died at the latter end of the year 1366, and was buried in the cathedral, where his chantry tomb and epitaph are still to be seen." ‡

BRATTON CASTLE is a strong entrenchment, occupying a point of land projecting towards the north-west, at the distance of about two miles from the village of Eddington. It is of an irregular form, humouring the slope of the hill, as happens in most of our hill fortresses. On one side, where the approach is easy it is defended by double ramparts, and a large out-work. The latter appears like a detached camp; but on its other sides, which are naturally protected by the precipitous nature of the ground, it has

\* History of Winchester, Vol. I. 289, 4to.

† Gudwin. *Ubi. supra.*

‡ History of Winchester, Vol. I. p. 290.

has only a single ditch and vallum; and at one spot has no artificial defence. This encampment has two entrances into its area, both of which are defended by redoubts. The circuit of the outer vallum measures 1540 yards; and the greatest height of the ramparts is thirty-six feet. The area within the ditch contains above twenty-three acres. Within it is a raised mound,\* or barrow, which, on being opened, was found to contain some black ashes, bones, and pottery. On one side of the section made into it, was discovered a pile of pebbles, which had been evidently formed by the hand of art. Several querns, or millstones, have also been found within the area of this entrenchment; and in a field to the north of it much Roman pottery and many coins have been dug up.

Exterior to the rampart, on the south-west declivity of the hill is the figure of a *White Horse*, cut from the surface in a walking attitude. This curious monument measures from the hoot to the tip of the ear one hundred feet high, and one hundred feet in length, from the ear to the end of the tail. According to Gough it is an undoubted memorial of the battle of Eddington; but Mr. Wise, in his dissertation on the White Horse of Berkshires, assures us that this at Dratton is of modern construction; and that it was made within the memory of persons living at the time he visited it, in 1742, by the inhabitants of Westbury, who instituted a revel, or festival thereupon.

This part of the county is generally supposed to have been the scene of the battle of "*Ethandun*" where Alfred obtained a most signal victory over the Danes, and forced them to sue for peace. The circumstances attending this contest are given to the following effect, by Asser, the friend and biographer of the Saxon monarch.—"In the same year, ~~1016~~ 878, after Easter, King Alfred, with a few assistants, re~~constructed~~ constructed a fort in a place which is called *Ethelingæg*,\* and from that fort constantly harassed the pagans by attacks. At length, in the seventh

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weel

\* Isle of Athelney in Somersetshire. Vide Vol. XIII.

week after Easter, he set out to *Ægbright's Stone*, which is on the eastern side of *Selwood Forest*, called, in the Latin language, "*Magna Silva*;" and in the British, "*Coitmaur*," and there flocked to him all the inhabitants of Somersetshire, and of Wiltshire, and all the inhabitants of Hampshire, who had not sailed beyond the sea, for fear of the pagans. And when they beheld their king, they very naturally received him with great tribulations, as risen from the grave again; were filled with infinite joy, and there encamped for one night. The next morning the king moved his camp, and came to a place which is called *Ægglea*, and there also encamped for one night; and next morning moved forward to a place called *Ethandun*, where he attacked the whole army of the Danes with a compact phalanx, and after a long and obstinate combat, obtained a complete victory over them, routed them with immense slaughter, and pursued the fugitives to their entrenched camp, putting every one to the sword whom he overtook. All that he found without the entrenchment he seized, men, horses, and other cattle, but instantly put the men to death, and boldly encamped at the entrances of the entrenchment with all his army; and when he had remained there fourteen days, the pagans, plucked with cold and hunger, and broken with terror and distraction, sued for peace, and offered to give the king what hostages he pleased without expecting any from him."

Such is the account given by Asser of this celebrated battle, which decided the fate of Alfred. Of its correctness and authenticity it is impossible to form a doubt, as it is corroborated by all contemporary and succeeding writers. From the imperfect state of geographical science, however, in ancient times, different opinions have prevailed among modern antiquaries as to the precise spot designated by the name of *Ethandun*, and consequently as to the line of march followed by Alfred previous to the contest at that place. To these several opinions we shall now allude as fully as possible.

nden, Gibson, and Gough, all agree in identifying *Ethandun*.

duer with Eddington, near Bratton Castle, and conceive the latter to have been the fortress to which the Danes retired after the battle. The same are also the sentiments of Sir Richard Hoare, who further considers Egglea as synonymous with Clay-Hill, as do Camden and Gough; but Gibson prefers to fix it at Westbury-Leigh, a small village about a mile to the south of the town of Westbury. Milner,\* in his history of Winchester, places the scene of action at Heddlington to the north of Roundaway-hill, and supposes Oldborough Castle, situated in the road between Calne and Marlborough, to have been the entrenchment to which the Danes fled after their defeat. Tysons, in his *Magna Britannia*,\* on the authority of Dr. Beke, one of the professors in the university of Oxford, removes the scene of the battle from Wiltshire entirely, and maintains that it ought to be fixed at Heddlington, near Hungerford, in Berkshire. Whitaker, dissenting from all these opinions, contends that it was fought in the vicinity of Yatton, in North Wiltshire, where, he observes, the slaughter of the Danes is still commemorated in the word *Slaughterford*, the name of a particular spot on the river Avon. This able writer adds, that Highley Common may be properly recognized as the Egglea of Asser; and then queries "yet where was the fortress to which the routed Danes fled? It was undoubtedly that double entrenchment in Birry Wood, between Colerne and North Wraxall."†

To enter into a discussion relative to the merits of these several opinions would occupy more space than our limits will with propriety admit. We shall content ourselves, therefore, with observing, that notwithstanding the apparent ridicule with which Sir Richard Hoare speaks of the sentiments of Whitaker, they appear to us much more probable than the opinion for which the learned Baronet so anxiously contends. If the line of march, which he details were allowed to be correct; and if Eddington was really the scene of battle, and Bratton Castle the fortress to which

\* *Magna Britannia*, Vol. I. p. 162. † *Life of St. Neot*, p. 269.



Danes were pursued, then the defeated army must have actually advanced during the pursuit at least two miles on the very line of march of their victors, as Bratton Castle is situated between Clay-hill and Eddington. To suppose such a circumstance appears improbable, and contrary to the usual tactics of warriors. We cannot therefore think that Bratton Castle was the fort to which the Danes retired after the action; but at present we are rather inclined to believe that this memorable event occurred either at Slaughtenford, as Whitaker, or at Heddington, as Dr. Milner suggests. Ethelwerd, an ancient historian, insinuates distinctly that it took place near *Chipperton*. In that town the Danes had their main force and head-quarters; and there we have no doubt Alfred hoped to surprise them. In that object, however, he was evidently disappointed, for he found them ready to receive his attack at Ethandun, whether they had marched from Chippenham to oppose his progress.\*

### WESTBURY.

This town is situated in the hundred of its own name, at the distance of twenty-four miles north-west by west from Salisbury, and ninety-seven west by south from London. It is of considerable antiquity, and according to some authors, rose upon the ruins of the Roman town, Verlacio. This opinion of its origin, however, we have already shown to be incorrect; for the number of Roman coins found in the vicinity is no satisfactory reason for fixing a station here. Whether it was a town of any consequence in the time of the Saxons, does not appear upon record; nor is any thing known with certainty of its history, till the reign of Edward I. when it was constituted a corporate town by charter, under the jurisdiction of a mayor, recorder, and twelve capital burgesses. The mayor is elected annually on the 30th of September, and is sworn into office the second day of November following.

Westbury

\* Cf. Ethelwerd. *Res. Ang. Script. post Bedam Savile*, p. 845.

Westbury sends two members to Parliament, and has done so regularly since the 27th year of Henry VI, who renewed its charter of incorporation, and bestowed upon it the additional privilege of being represented in the national councils. The right of election, in this borough, is of a very peculiar nature, "being in every tenant of burgage tenements in fee, for lives or for ninety-nine years, determinable on lives, or by copy of court-roll paying a burgage rent of fourpence, or twopence yearly, being resident within the borough, and not receiving alms. There are three kinds of burgage holds, viz. freehold, copyhold, and leasehold, in some places the proprietor of the burgage-hold only has a right to vote; in others it is in the tenant, or occupier of such a tenure so that the same perplexities and doubts which arise as to the right of voting, in street and lot, or corporation boroughs, happen also in places of this description." \* The greater part of these burgage tenures, which are twenty-four in number, were held by the late Earl of Abingdon; and the Bertie family were continually returned from 1707 to 1763. Sir William Blackstone sat for this borough, in 1768; Samuel Estwick, Esq. from 1779 to 1790. Sir Henry Mildmay, and George Ellis, Esq. 1796. It is now represented by B. Hall, Esq. and B. Shaw, Esq. The mayor is the returning officer.

Westbury consists principally of one long street, running nearly in a direction north and south. According to the population returns of 1811, it contains 351 houses, and 1700 inhabitants, who are chiefly engaged in the manufacture of woollens. The market-day here is Friday, weekly; and the fairs are on the first Friday in Lent, and on Whitmonday, when there is usually a large supply of cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, cheeses, &c. The borough and hundred of Westbury form but one parish. For the former a court-leet is held by the mayor, in November, annually; and for the latter, one in May by the steward of the Lord of the Manor, at which two high constables are appointed for securing the public peace.

The

\* History of Boroughs, Vol. III.

The only public buildings in this town which demand the notice of the topographer, are the Town-Hall and the Church. The first is a convenient edifice, in which the borough courts are held. It is situated near the centre of the town, and is also appropriated in part as a *Wool-Hall*.

The *Church* is a large ancient structure of stone, with a tower in the middle, and a fine spacious window at the west end. In this church are several monumental erections in honour of persons of considerable note. In the south transept is an ancient tomb, with two recumbent figures thereon, which commemorates *James, Lord Ley, Earl of Marlborough*, who died March 13th, 1628.\* Here is also a fine marble monument to the memory of *William Phipps, Esq.* of Heywood, formerly governor of Bombay, whose death occurred in August, 1748. It is adorned with a well executed bust of the deceased by Robert Taylor. In Gough's sepulchral monuments, Vol. II. p. 157, is an entry, by which it appears that "*Sir William Westbury*, one of the justices of the common pleas, by Will dated 12th November, 1448, proved 5th January, 1449, bequeathed his body to be buried in the church of All Saints at Westbury, in Sarum diocese, in a certain new chapel on the north side of the said church lately built and founded by his father John and himself, near the inner wall under a glazed window."

*Bryan Edwards*, an eminent merchant and author, was born in this town May 21st, 1743. His father, who inherited a small property in the vicinity, died in 1756, leaving a widow in distressing circumstances, with six children, of whom Bryan was the oldest. Happily, however, Mrs. Edwards had two opulent brothers in the West Indies, one of whom took the family under his immediate protection, and directed that his nephew, in particular, should be well educated. Bryan was accordingly sent to school in Bristol, where he obtained an intimate knowledge of French language, and having access to a good library,

first

\* For some account of this nobleman, vide p. 251-2.

first acquired that passion for literature which afterwards rendered him so distinguished in society. In 1759 his younger uncle having taken up his residence in London, took Edwards to live with him for about six months, and then sent him out to his patron in Jamaica, which proved the most fortunate occurrence of his life. Mr. Bayly, for that was the name of his uncle, observing his thirst for books, placed him soon after his arrival in the West Indies, under the tuition of a Mr. Teale, with the view of enabling him to acquire a competent knowledge of the learned languages. In these, however, as he informs us himself, he never obtained any great proficiency; but as Mr. Teale was a man of real genius and very extensive information, he contributed much to Edwards's improvement in taste and literary composition. During this period he wrote many poems and essays for the colonial newspapers.

Mr. Bayly having died a bachelor sometime about the year 1770, young Edwards was left heir to all his property and business. In 1773 he succeeded to the large property of a Mr. Hume, and consequently became one of the most opulent men in Jamaica. Soon after this event he returned to England; but does not seem to have fixed his residence here permanently, till some years afterwards. In 1796 he was elected member for the borough of Grampound, in Cornwall, which he continued to represent in parliament till his death, which happened at his house in the Polygon, near Southampton, July 15th, 1800.

Mr. Edwards first attracted the notice of the public as an author in 1784, by the publication of a pamphlet entitled "Thoughts on the proceedings of government respecting the trade of the West India Islands with the United States of America." This was followed by a "Speech delivered by him at a free conference between the council and assembly at Jamaica, held on the 25th of November, 1789, on the subject of Mr. Wilberforce's propositions in the house of commons concerning the slave trade." But his most distinguished performance is his "History, civil and commercial of the British colonies in the West

West Indies," published in three vols. 4to. 1793. It is a work of genuine merit, and of the highest authority, particularly in the commercial part. In 1796 Mr. Edwards published his last work, "The proceedings of the governor and assembly of Jamaica, in regard to the Maroon negroes." In all these works the style of the composition is easy and elegant, and many of the remarks are peculiarly valuable, as being the result of long experience and observation.\*

**PHILIP WITHERS, D. D.** a writer of considerable distinction in the last century, was likewise a native of Westbury, where his father carried on the trade of a blue dyer. The period of his birth is not mentioned; but we find that in early life he was apprenticed to a country shop-keeper, and was in his twentieth year before he had an opportunity of acquiring even the rudiments of education. He then, however, became a pupil to Mr. Milner, who kept a school at Hull, in Yorkshire, and made such rapid progress in his studies, that he was admitted a member of Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1777. Here he continued about a year and a half, when he removed to Queen's College, where Mr. Milner's brother was tutor, and where he is said to have attained great proficiency in the Greek and Latin languages. About this time proposals appeared for a splendid edition of "The Table of Cebes, with plates and notes," to be published by some gentlemen of the University of Cambridge, for the benefit of the sons of the clergy. Withers, who was one of the editors, or perhaps sole editor; for he never made known his co-adjutors, waited upon Archbishop Cornwallis, with a prospectus of the work to solicit his patronage. The dignified prelate received him with great civility; but is said to have declined giving any answer till he had made some inquiries respecting his character and talents. Withers nevertheless published new proposals, with the archbishop's name affixed as patron of the intended work; but from some misander-

misunderstanding among the parties concerned, it never made its appearance.

Shortly after the failure of this undertaking Dr. Withers left Cambridge, and repaired to London, where he opened an academy in St. Mary Axe; and in the year succeeding obtained the lectureship of St. Clement's, East Cheap. In 1783, he resided at Paddington, and was preacher, or reader, at Bentinck Chapel. About the same period he began his literary career, by the publication of a "Letter to the Rev. Samuel Dennis, D. D. Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, in reply to a Letter signed Vindex." Conceiving that letter to have been directed against his own character, he endeavoured to vindicate himself, from the charge of ignorance and methodism, which it contained, and boldly challenged any member of the University of Oxford to a trial of skill in the Greek language. This pamphlet is thus characterised in the Monthly Review for 1783: "We have not lately perused a better written performance. The language is spirited and elegant. The sentiments are candid, liberal, and modestly advanced; and the whole bespeaks the writer a gentleman and a scholar." In 1787, he published a pamphlet of a libellous nature, under the title of "*Cassundra*;" and in 1789, produced his "*Aristarchus, or the Principles of Composition*," which is undoubtedly the most valuable of all his performances, and may justly entitle him to rank among the first of our philosophical philologists. A second edition of this work was afterwards printed (undated, 8vo.) in a very careless, tasteless, and inaccurate manner. It is now before us; and we cannot but feel great regret in contrasting the elegant, perspicuous, and powerful style and sentiments of the writer, with the vulgar dress in which he appears.\* The same year, being then resident in Sloane Square, Chelsea, he

\* It is the intention of the writer of this Article to print a new edition of "*Aristarchus*," with notes, and a Memoir of the Author. He will be much obliged for any information tending to elucidate the one, or characterize the other, addressed to J. Britton, Tavistock Place, London.

he signalized himself by writing several pamphlets on the subject of the King's indisposition, the Regency, and the *supposed* matrimonial connection between the Prince of Wales and Mrs. Fitzherbert. Some expressions in these pamphlets being construed as libellous, he was prosecuted in the court of King's Bench, and convicted of the charge made against him.\* When brought up to receive judgment his conduct was indiscreet in the extreme, and tended in no small degree to heighten his punishment, which was, that he should pay a fine of 50l. and be imprisoned in Newgate for the space of twelve calendar months, where he died in consequence of a fever caught by overheating himself at a game of fires. This event took place in July, 1790, when he was buried at Chelsea, near London.†

Westbury was anciently the lordship and estate of the family of the Mauduits, some of whom were men of eminence in this county; but it was forfeited to the crown in consequence of Thomas Mauduit joining in rebellion with Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, against Edward the Second. His heirs however, recovered it in the succeeding reign, and held it till, by the failure of heirs male, it fell to Sir Richard St. Maur, who possessed it, in the reign of Henry the Fourth. How long the descendants of that Knight continued to enjoy it is uncertain, but in the time of Henry the Eighth we find it had passed into the possession of Thomas Lord Mountjoy;‡ and in the last century it was the property of the Earl of Abingdon.

LEIGH,

\* One of these pamphlets was entitled "History of the Royal Malady, with a variety of entertaining anecdotes, to which are added strictures on the declaration of Horne Tooke, Esq. respecting the Princess of Wales, commonly called Mrs. Fitzherbert;" and another, "Alfred, or a narrative of the daring and illegal measures to suppress a pamphlet entitled *Strictures*, &c."

† *Lycer's Environs of London*, Vol. II. p. 144. 4, Edit. 4to. 1795. *Gentleman's Magazine and Monthly Review*.

‡ This nobleman, says the author of *Magna Britannia*, ordered and appointed by Will. "That for the space of two years after his decease, a god

LEIGH, commonly called *Westbury-Leigh*, is a small village situated about a mile to the south of Westbury. It is supposed by Gibson and others, as already mentioned, to be the place designated in Asser by the word *Egglea*, where King Alfred encamped on the night previous to the battle of Ethandun. Adjoining to it is a field called Court-field, and also a garden still surrounded by a moat; which are traditionally said to commemorate the existence of a Saxon palace. The manor of Leigh in the reign of Edward the Third, formed part of the estate of Reginald, Lord Cobham, of Stereborough; but seems to have been alienated from him soon after to some of the family of Molins; for Joan, the widow of Sir John Molins, marrying Michael, Lord Poynings, carried it into his family for her life: This township has lately increased greatly both in extent and population. According to the parliamentary returns of 1811, it contains 286 houses and 1357 inhabitants, who are mostly engaged in the woollen and silk trade.

BROOK, or BROKE-HALL, lying about two miles westward from Westbury, was anciently the seat of Sir Robert Willoughby, created Lord Brooke, in the reign of Henry the Seventh.\* Le-  
land

and discreet person should be found out and chosen to edify the youth of this parish, with two lectures, the first of which to be every day in the morning, ordained for the catechising of children, that they might perfectly understand their baptismal vow, and how to pray in the Ave Mary and Pater Noster; how our Lord is to be honoured and how the ten commandments are to be kept, and often oppose them to know their improvements. The other to be in the afternoon, on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday, every week, for all that will come to declare the duties of subjects to their King and Magistrates, not only for fear but conscience sake, with scriptures consonant to them, and for increpation of vice, with proper texts of Scripture; for the performance of both which he ordered that the reader should have twenty marks by the year.

\* Sir Robert Willoughby, Lord Brooke, was son to Sir Robert Willoughby, of Kresby, and succeeded to the manor and seat of Brook Hall, in right of



land mentions it in these terms, "From Steple-Asscheton to Brooke Hauke about a two myle by woody ground. There was of auncient time an olde manor place, where Brooke Hall is now, and part of it yet appearith; but the new buyldynge that is there is of the erectynge of the Lord Steward, unto Kynge Henry the VII. The wyndowes be full of Rudders. Peradventure it was his badge or token of the Amiralitie. There is a fayre parke but no great large thyng. In it be a great nombar of very fayre and sync greynid okes apt to sele howses."\*

At COULTON situated about five miles eastwards from Westbury, between the villages of Eddington and Stoke, is a handsome seat belonging to Mrs. Long, widow of the late William Long, Esq. already mentioned as having been buried in the church of Eddington.

Mrs. MARY DELANY, wife of Dr. Patrick Delaney,† the friend of Swift, was a native of this place, where her father Bernard Granville, Esq. brother to George Granville, Lord Lansdown, had a small country house. She was born May 14th, 1700, and as may be supposed from the rank of her family and connections, received

his grandmother, Anne, daughter and heiress of Sir John Cheyney, of this house. He was raised to the peerage as a reward for his signal services both by sea and land, and held for many years the office of Lord High Admiral of England. He died in 1504, and left for his heir Robert Willoughby, Lord Brooke, who having married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Richard Beauchamp of Alcester, had by her the honor of Beauchamp's Court in Warwickshire, where he fixed his seat, and assumed the title of Lord Brooke of Beauchamp's Court. This nobleman left three daughters, the eldest of whom married John Greville, ancestor to George Greville, Earl Brooke of Warwick Castle and Earl of Warwick, Collins's Peerage of England, by Sir Egerton Brydges, Vol. IV.

\* *Ireland's History*, Vol. VII. p. 81. Bvo. 1740.

† Dr. Delaney was an Irishman by birth, and of mean extraction, but raised himself by his abilities, and through the friendship of Swift, to high reputation and opulence. His works on theology are numerous and generally esteemed.

received a liberal education. At the age of seventeen she married, Alexander Pendarves, Esq.; on the death of whom, in 1724, she quitted the country, and fixed her residence in the metropolis, where she became acquainted with the celebrated Deaa Swift, and kept up a regular correspondence with him during several years. Mrs. Pendarves married her second husband, Dr. Delaney, in 1743. This seems to have been a much happier union than the first, though chequered by anxiety for the fate of a tedious lawsuit, in which the Doctor's character was deeply involved, but it was eventually cleared by a decision of the House of Peers. Dr. Delaney died in 1768, after which his widow chiefly resided with the Dutchess Dowager of Portland at Bulstrode. In 1782 she lost her sight, but retained the full possession of all her other faculties till her death, which happened May 15th, 1788, when she was buried in St. James's Church, Westminster, where a monument was erected to her memory.

Mrs. Delaney is described by her biographers as being eminently skilled in painting, embroidery, and shell work. But what rendered her name remarkable as an amateur artist, was her invention, at the age of seventy, of the art of *paper Mosaic*, as it has been called, with which material, says Walpole, "she executed, within twenty of, a thousand various flowers and flowering shrubs, with a precision and truth unparalleled."\* "Mrs.

VOL. XV.—*March*, 1814.

2 H

Delaney

\* Mr. Gilpin, when he visited Bulstrode in 1776, was shewing Mrs. Delaney's Herbal, of which he observes, "she has executed a great number of plants and flowers both natives and exotics, not only with exact delineation, and almost in their full lustre of colour, but in great taste; and, what is the most extraordinary, her only materials are bits of paper of different colours. In the progress of her work she pulls the flower in pieces; examines anatomically the structure of its leaves, stems, and buds, and having cut her papers to the shape of the several parts, she puts them together, giving them a richness and consistence by laying one piece over another, and often a transparent piece over part of a shade which softens it. Very rarely she gives any colour with a brush. She pastes them as she works upon a black ground, which

Delaney was likewise a poet of no mean talent, and is supposed to have considerably assisted her husband in some of his literary productions. In the eightieth year of her age, she wrote and prefixed the following lines to the first volume of her *Flora*, or *Herbal* :

" Hail to the happy hour when fancy led  
My pensive mind the flowery path to tread,  
And gave me emulation to presume  
With timid art, to trace fair nature's bloom ;  
To view with awe the great creative power  
That shines confest in the minutest flower :  
With wonder to pursue the glorious line,  
And gratefully adore the hand divine."\*

HEYWOOD-HOUSE, situated about two miles due north from Westbury, was built in the reign of King James I. by James, Lord Ley, afterwards created Earl of Marlborough. It was long possessed by the family of Phipps : but is now the property and seat of ——— Indlow, Esq. Near this mansion is a fine mineral spring, the water of which is said to be used with success in various chronic complaints ; such as scrofula, scurvy, and affections of the bowels,

### STEEPLE-ASHTON

is a considerable village, situated about three miles south-east from Trowbridge. Leland mentions it in these terms : " From the Vics to Steeple Assheton a 6 myles by champaine but frute-full

which at first I thought rather injured them, as a middle tint would have given more strength to the shades, but I doubt whether it would have answered in effect. These flowers have both the beauty of painting and the exactness of botany ; and the work, I have no doubt, into whatever hands it may hereafter fall, will be long considered as a great curiosity."—*Observations relating to picturesque beauty in the Highlands of Scotland*, Vol. II. p. 190.

\* For an ample memoir of this Lady, see "*Biographia Britannica*," by Dr. Kippis, (fol.) where another of her poetical effusions, written on the occasion of her becoming blind, is inserted.

full grownds and goode woode, plenty in some places. It is a praty little market tounce, and hath praty buildings. It standith much by clothiers. There is in it a very fayre chirche buyldid in the mynd of men now lyvinge.”\* The privilege of a market was granted by charter in the reign of Edward III. and was confirmed in the time of Richard II. who likewise conferred the privilege of an annual fair on the 18th of September. The market, however, has been long disused; and the fair, though still held, is very inconsiderable. The manufacture of cloth here is entirely abandoned, so that agriculture now constitutes the chief employment of the inhabitants.

The Church of Steeple Ashton is a very lofty and elegant structure, and consists of a nave, chancel, two side ailes, a north and south porch, two small chapels, and a large tower at the west end. It was built, as appears from an inscription in the nave, about 1480; but the chapels, and part of the east end of the chancel, from their difference in style, seem to be of older date. The body of this church and the ailes are surmounted by battlements, and are decorated with pinnacles rising from buttresses in every third opening. These pinnacles are ornamented with panelling. Flying buttresses support the nave, the pinnacles on which differ in shape from those of the ailes, the former being square, and the latter octagonal. Both porches attached to this edifice are large, and particularly that on the south side. The tower is high and handsome, and has a fine western window with five richly ornamented niches over it. The summit is terminated by battlements, with a pinnacle at each angle. From the testimony of Leland, and from an inscription on the tower itself, we learn that it was formerly surmounted by a lofty spire, or steeple, whence the village derived the first part of its name. “The *spired steple*, of stone is very fayre and highe, and of that it is called Steple Assheton.”\* The inscription upon the tower explains the circumstances attending its destruction.

\* Itinerary, Vol. XII. p. 80.

† Itinerary, ubi supra.

“ Upon this tower was a famous and lofty spire, containing in height above the tower ninety-three feet, which a violent storm of thunder rent and made a great breach therein July 25, 1670. The parish willing to preserve such a noble and complete spire, endeavoured to repair the same by employing able workmen for that purpose; but such was the uncontrollable providence of Almighty God, that when the spire was almost finished, and the workmen labouring thereon, another terrible storm of thunder and lightning happened the 15th of October in the same year, which threw down the spire, and killed the two workmen labouring thereon, and beat down the top of the tower, great part of the body of the church, and part of the isles thereof, the reparation whereof cost the parishioners, and some well-disposed neighbours, the sum of 420*l*. and was finished in the year 1675.”

The interior of this church corresponds with its exterior in style and elegance. The vaultings of the aisles are covered with a profusion of sculptural decorations and tracery work. The roof of the nave is also groined, or formed by intersecting arches richly ornamented, and resting upon canopied niches, adorned with small whole length figures, flowers, &c. In the aisles the niches are large, and rest on curious grotesque half length figures. In the windows here is a considerable portion of painted glass in good preservation. Ten clustered columns separate the aisles from the body of the church. Among the monuments is one to *Thomas Bennett* and another to *John Smith, Esq.* and a third to *Mrs. Ann Cary*. Against the north wall of the nave is the inscription above noticed relative to the building of the church.

“ This church was founded unto the honour of Almighty God between the years of our Lord 1480 and 1500. The north Ile was built at the cost and charge of *Robert Long* and Edith his wife. The South Ile for the most part was built at the cost and charge of the parishioners then living.”—Leland says “ *Robert Long* clothiary, buylded the North Ile. *Walter Lucas* Clothiary buildyd the Sowthe Isle at their proper costes.”\*

The

\* Itinerary ubi supra. p. 81. The worthy and truly respectable Vicar of this

The parish of Steeple Ashton is divided into five tithings, viz. Steeple-Ashton, West-Ashton, Great-Hinton, Littleton, and Semington, or Sevington; at which last place is a church dependent upon that of Steeple-Ashton. According to the population returns of 1811, the whole contains 314 houses, and 1452 inhabitants, by far the greater number of whom are engaged in agriculture.

The Manor of this place was some time in the possession of the Beauchamps, Lords St. Amand, as stated by the author of *Magna Britannia*. Leland says, "the Abbey of Ramesey, in Hamptonshe had both parsonage impropriate, and the hole lordshipe. Sir Thomas Semaer hath it now (temp. Hen. VIII.) of the kyngs almost with the whole hundred of Horwelle, alias Wharwelle-down, with much fayre woods."\* In 1610 it was among the lands and revenues assigned for the establishment of Prince Henry, son to James I.†

Plot, in his *Natural History of Oxfordshire*, (p. 327) states there was dug up near Steeple Ashton a *pavement*, which he conceived to be Roman, though differing in its materials and design from the usual pavements of that people. It consisted of a matter much softer than marble, cut into small oblong squares, of various colours, and set in curious figures. Among the fossil productions of this parish are some curious specimens of the *Mudrepore-stone*:‡ an account of which is given in Parkinson's "*Organic Remains*," a very curious and interesting work.

2 H 3

TROW-

this parish, the *Rev. Mr. Hay*, has manifested particular and truly laudable care and attention in preserving the stability and beauty of his church.

\* *Itinerary ubi supra.*

† *Lewis's History of the Isle of Thanet*, p. 314.

‡ Two specimens of this curious fossil, found here, are mentioned in Mr Parkinson's work. One of them was presented by Mr. Cunningham, of Heytesbury, and the other by Mr. Herbert, of Bristol. The former is described as being stellated, and formed of raised undulating radii on its superior side, while its inferior side displays a finely reticulated appearance,  
from

## TROWBRIDGE

is a considerable market and manufacturing town, situated in the hundred of Melksham, at the distance of twenty-eight miles north-west from Salisbury, and ninety-eight miles west by south from London.\* Neither the etymology of its name, nor the period of its origin, can be ascertained with accuracy; but as it is not mentioned in Domesday Book, we may conclude that it had no existence when that great work was compiled. The first notice of it in history occurs in the reign of King Stephen, about the year 1150 when we are informed that *Trowbridge Castle* was

from the intersection of minute longitudinal and truncated striae. This corallite, the author remarks, affords a curious and highly interesting view of the mode of increase peculiar to itself. "It appears that when an area of its curious stellated fabric was completed by the labour of its polypæan inhabitants, another colony laid the foundation of another city on some part of the former surface, and thus another and another colony laboured until several areas were formed. Then as the work proceeded the nature of the structure became changed; the labours of each colony seem to have been protracted, so that the perpendicular fibres were extended in a waving form, by which the fossil obtains somewhat of a foliaceous appearance." The specimen of Mr. Herbert differed from the other, and indeed from all other madreporæ stones Mr. Parkinson had ever seen. It was divided at certain distances by perpendicular lamellæ, which were connected not only by short and partially disposed transverse plates, but by several series of larger horizontal plates passing through the whole substance of the madreporæ, and connecting the perpendicular lamellæ so firmly as to give the appearance in several parts as if the perpendicular plates were tied together by a slight ligature." This madreporæ was formed of a spatulose substance, strongly impregnated with iron, which is in fact the case with all the madreporæ found at Steeple-Ashton.—Parkinson's Organic Remains, Vol. II. p. 49 et 67.

\* Camden says that its proper name is *Trubridge*, which means a firm and trusty bridge. Leland writes it *Thoroughbridge*; and Gough, as well as the author of *Magna Britannia*, *Trolbridge*. The reason alledged for the last name is, that "beside the natural melting of t into u, there is a tything in the liberty and parish called Trol, and a large common near it of the same

was occupied by the partizans of the Empress Maud, and was besieged and taken by the usurper; but whether there was any town at that era does not appear.

According to Leland, the lordship of Trowbridge belonged at an early period to the Earls of Sarum; but the assertion seems doubtful, as this place is not mentioned among the possessions of that family in Dugdale's Baronage. It is more certain, however, that it formed part of the estates of Henry, Duke of Lancaster, whose daughter, Blanch, married John of Gaunt, son to Edward III. This celebrated nobleman is traditionally said to have been the founder of Trowbridge Castle; but that must of course allude to a rebuilding of it, and not to the original structure, which, we have said above, was erected in the time of Stephen. When Lancaster was constituted a county palatine, this castle and manor, as part of the duke's property, was recognized in the charters as one of the honours attached to it; and here it is very probable that the court of chancery for the duchy was held, as the rents for the same are paid at Trowbridge to this day.

As the entire duchy of Lancaster was vested in the king in the reign of Henry VII. this town, as belonging thereto, became a royal demesne. In Leland's time; however, it had been severed from the crown by grant to Edward, Earl of Hertford, afterwards Duke of Somerset, at whose attainder it again reverted to the crown. It was restored, however, to his son by Queen Elizabeth, and continued the property of his collateral descendants till the reign of Charles I. when Sir Francis Seymour, Knt. was created a baron by the title of Lord Seymour of Trowbridge. It afterwards passed to the family of Manners, by the marriage of Lady Francis Seymour, eldest daughter of Charles, Duke of Somerset, with John, Marquis of Granby, and from him descended to the present Duke of Rutland, who sold it, in 1809, to Thomas Timbrell, Esq.

Like the generality of manufacturing towns, Trowbridge is very irregularly built. None of the streets seem to have been formed according to any predetermined plan, but have been ar-



ranged, constructed, and altered, according as private interest, caprice, or convenience might suggest. Hence though there are several handsome houses in the town, they appear to great disadvantage, from the narrowness of the passage in front, and the intermixture of old and shabby looking buildings.

The extent and importance of Trowbridge can be best determined by a reference to the parliamentary reports of 1811, by which it appears to have then contained 1170 houses, and 6075 inhabitants. Of these the greater number were engaged in the woollen manufacture, which was first established here in the early part of the reign of Henry VIII. under the auspices of the Earl of Hertford abovementioned. Leland, who lived in the same reign, gives the following account of this town:—"From Bradeforde to Thorough-Bridge, about a 3 mile by good corne, pasture and wood. I enterid into the toune by a stone bridge of 3 arches. The town standeth on a rokky hille, and is very welle buildyd of stone and florishith by Drapery. Of later tymes one James Terumber, a very rich clothier buildid a notable faire house in this town and gave it at his deth with other laudes to the finding of 2 Cantuarie Prestes yn 'Through-Bridg Chirch.' This Têrumber made also a litle Almose house by Through-Bridg Chirch, and yn it be a 6 poore folkes, having a 3 pence by the week toward their findinge. Horton a Clothiar of Bradeforde buildid of late dayes dyvers fine houses in this town. Old Bayllie buildyd of late yn this town, he was a rich clothiar: Bailies sun now drapeth yn the town, and also a 2 miles out of it, at a place yn the way to Farley Castel. One Alexandre is now a great clothier in the town."\* The cloths now principally manufactured in this town are superfine broad cloths and kerseymeres. The weekly produce is estimated at ninety pieces of the former, and four hundred and ninety pieces of the latter.

Trowbridge not being an incorporated town, the government of it is vested in the county magistrates, who hold the petty sessions for the Trowbridge division of the hundred alternately here,

\* Itinerary, Vol. II. p. 30.

here, and at Bradford. Two other annual courts are likewise held in the town, viz. a court-leet and a court-baron, belonging to the lord of the manor. In the former, in which the lord or his steward presides, the constables, tything-men, hayward, and cornets of the market are appointed and sworn into office. The duty of the last-mentioned officers is to inspect the provisions brought to the market for sale, and to take care that the weights and measures accord with the proper standards. The market-day here is Saturday, weekly; and there is a fair annually on the fifth of August, at which a considerable quantity of woollen goods, and some cattle, cheese, &c. are sold. In the market-place formerly stood a *stone cross*, which was taken down about twenty years ago, upon the pretence of its obstructing the communication of the High street, and injuring its appearance. It is thus noticed by Leland: "There is a fair standing place for market-men to stond yn, in the harte of the towne and this is made viij square, and a pillar in the midle, as there is one made in Malmesbyri fār fairer then this."

The *Church* of Trowbridge is dedicated to St. James; and though upwards of four hundred years old, is still characterized by the appellation *New Church*, which shews that another must have existed here previous to its erection.\* By whom the expence of this structure was defrayed is not distinctly recorded; but it is very probable that a great proportion of it was contributed by James Terumber, the rich clothier, mentioned in a preceding quotation from Leland, and that the remainder was subscribed by other benevolent individuals connected with the town. This opinion is founded on the contents of a deed of scottment† by Terumber, dated January 11, 1483, in which he directs in substance, that out of the "rents of his estates situated in Trowbridge, Studley, Broughton, Giffard, and Bradley, in the county

\* Some vestiges of the former church have been lately discovered close to the site of the parsonage-house. Tradition ascribes its foundation to John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster.

† This deed is now in the vestry-room of Trowbridge Church.

of Wilts, and Beckington, in the county of Somerset, that the feoffees therein named with the church-wardens, should elect and choose a priest immediately after his decease, and pay him a certain yearly salary of ten marks to serve and sing divine service at the altar in the new church before the tomb of Joan his wife, called Jesus-Altar, and pray for himself and the other founders of the mass, and for the souls of all other benefactors whose names should be comprised in a table hanging at the said high altar."

Considered in an architectural point of view, this church is far from being undeserving of notice. Leland styles it "lightsum and fair," and tells us that one Molines "a man welle lernid" was parson there in his time. It is a spacious structure, consisting of a nave, chancel, two side aisles, with chapels attached, a north and south porch, and a large tower at the west end surmounted by a taper spire. The nave and aisles are embattled at the top, and are ornamented with crocketed pinnacles. Both porches are unusually lofty: that on the south side of the nave has a room over it, and is adorned with three niches. The nave has a flat ceiled roof, highly decorated with flowers, &c. It is separated from the aisles by five arches on each side, supported by clustered columns with ornamented capitals. The chapels at the eastern extremities of the south and north aisles belong, the former to the lord of the manor, and the latter to the family of the Bythesars. Some of the windows here contain fragments of painted glass, particularly the east windows of the chapels, which are large, and displays seven dayes, or lights, separated by mullions. The font is lofty, and covered with a profusion of tracery and panelling, with sculptural representations on shields, emblematical of the crucifixion. The monuments here are numerous; and there is also a board inscribed with a list of benefactors, hung up in the nave. The living is a rectory, in the gift of the Duke of Rutland, he having reserved the advowson of the church when he sold the manor. It is now held by Rev. Cooper.

This church is the only structure in Trowbridge appropriated to religious purposes under the establishment; but there is a chapel of ease dependant upon it at Staverton, a hamlet within the parish. Like most large manufacturing towns, Trowbridge abounds with Dissenters; and consequently contains several meeting-houses, or conventicles.

The charitable institutions in Trowbridge are an *Alms-house*, and a *School* for the education of 30 boys. The former was founded by a person named Yerbury, and is situated in a part of the town called Hilperton-lane. The school-house stands in the church-yard, near the spot where the alms-house, erected and endowed by Terumber, was placed, and which was demolished about two years ago, and the funds appropriated to the use of the parish poor generally.

Of the *Castle* of Trowbridge no part is now standing; but its site is still easily distinguishable by the remains of the moat and valla by which it was surrounded. It is more elevated than the ground upon which the town is built, and still retains in the appellation Court-hill, a marked allusion to its ancient appropriation. By whom the castle was erected we have no data to determine, except the tradition before mentioned, of its having been the work of John of Gaunt. When it was demolished is equally uncertain. This, however, must have occurred previous to the reign of Henry VIII, for Leland says of it, "The castell stoode on the south side of the toun. It is now cleue down. There was in it a 7 gret toures whereof peaces of 2 are yet stande."\* This castle was formerly approached from the town by a drawbridge over the moat, which has given occasion to a very plausible conjecture that the name Trowbridge is a corruption for drawbridge, near which the retainers of the castle may probably have built their houses in the infancy of the town. This supposition derives some support from the fact that a few of the buildings adjoining Court-hill possess considerable marks of antiquity. In the Fore Street are two houses, some parts of which are sup-

posed

\* Itinerary, Vol. II. p. 30.

posed to have existed previous to the destruction of the castle, and have been attached to it. These houses display the remains of several pointed arches and "Gothic" ornaments, and also some panes of stained-glass which appear to be very ancient.

GEORGE KEATE, a writer of considerable eminence in the last century, was born in this town in the year 1730. He was descended from the ancient and opulent family of the Hungerfords and Seymours.\* Early in life he went to Geneva, where he resided for several years, during which time he assiduously cultivated the friendship of the illustrious and philosophic Voltaire. On his return to England he commenced the study of the law in the Inner Temple, and being called to the bar, attended for some time in Westminster Hall, but not being successful in obtaining practice, he abandoned his profession for the more congenial pursuits of literature. In 1760 he published "Ancient and Modern Rome," a poem, written when he visited that capital in 1755,† which was received with approbation by the critics of the day. It was followed, in 1761, by "A short Account of the Ancient History, present Government and Laws of the Republic of Geneva." This work he dedicated to his friend, Voltaire. His next production was an "Epistle from Lady Jane Grey to Lord Guildford Dudley," published in 1762, which was succeeded in the ensuing year by his poem of "The Alps," the best of all his poetical compositions, both for vigour of imagination and accuracy of description. In 1764 he produced "Netley Abbey," a poem; and, in 1765, "The Temple Student," in which he humorously satirizes his own want of application to his professional studies, and intimates his irresistible attachment to general literature. In 1769 came out an enlarged edition of "Netley Abbey;" and in the same year his "Ferney," an epistle to Voltaire, in which he introduced an eulogium on Shakspeare, so highly gratifying to the mayor and burgesses of Stratford, that they

\* His great grandfather was Sir George Hungerford, and his grandmother Lady Frances Seymour, daughter to Charles, Lord Trevelyan.

they presented him with a standish, mounted with silver, and made of the wood of the mulberry-tree planted by the immortal dramatist. About this period he also formed a matrimonial connection with Miss Hudson, of Wanlip, in Leicestershire. "The Monuments in Arcadia," a dramatic poem, appeared in 1773; and, in 1779, "Sketches from Nature, taken and coloured in a journey to Margate." This work, which is a happy imitation of the *Sentimental Journey* of Sterne, contains many just observations on life and manners, and is enlivened by much genuine humour and refined sentiment. In 1781 Mr. Keate published a collection of his poetical works, in two volumes, 12mo. with a portrait and prints, and dedicated to Dr. Heberden. In these volumes were included several pieces never before printed. Of these one was the "Helvetiad," a fragment written at Geneva in 1756. The next production of our author was a "Letter to Angelica Kauffman," the celebrated painter. About this time he was involved in a tedious and vexatious lawsuit, at the conclusion of which he produced a serio-comic poem in three cantos, intituled "The Distressed Poet," allusive to, and explanatory of the circumstances of his cause. His last work was an "Account of the Pellew Islands," which was published in 1788, and the proceeds appropriated to benevolent purposes. This production is written with great care, and in an elegant and nervous style. Mr. Keate died June 27, 1797, leaving an only daughter, who married J. Henderson, Esq.\*

WILLIAM TEMPLE, another writer of distinction in the last century, though not a native of Trowbridge, may nevertheless from his long residence here, and the uncertainty of his birth-place, justly claim some notice in an account of this town. He was author of several controversial essays and pamphlets in favour of the principles of Wilkes. But the works which have conferred upon him the most solid fame are his *Remarks on Smith's "Memoirs of Wool,"* and a *Treatise on Commerce*, which

\* *Gentleman's Magazine*, Vol. LXXVII, p. 796. *Monthly Magazine* 1797.

which at once displays an enlarged capacity, and an intimate and extensive acquaintance with the subjects of which it treats.

**ROWD-ASHTON**, the seat of Richard Godolphin Long, Esq. is situated about two miles to the south-east of Trowbridge. The house is large and commodious, and has lately undergone considerable alterations and improvements, under the superintendence of Jeffery Wyatt, Esq. architect. The park is extensive and well wooded. Mr. Long is one of the representatives for the county of Wilts in the present parliament.

**SELWOOD-FOREST.** A portion of Wiltshire anciently constituted part of the extensive and much celebrated *Coitmaur*, or Forest of Selwood, which extended many miles both in length and breadth, and covered all the south western confines of this county, and a large portion of Somersetshire. Within the almost impenetrable fastnesses of this forest the brave Alfred, with a small band of followers, defied for several months all the skill and valour of his Danish enemies, and at length by one bold and decisive blow ruined their power in the West-Saxon kingdom, forced them to sue for peace, and to conclude it on his own conditions.\* When Selwood was disafforested does not, as far we know, appear on record, but this must have happened subsequent to the reign of Henry VI. as Walter, Lord Hungerford, is mentioned as keeper of this forest in the twenty-seventh year of that monarch's reign. The holding of that office was considered a peculiar mark of royal favour. It was some time enjoyed by the family of the Stourtons, by one of whom it was transferred, with the consent of the king, to Thomas, Lord Hungerford, in the reign of Edward III.†

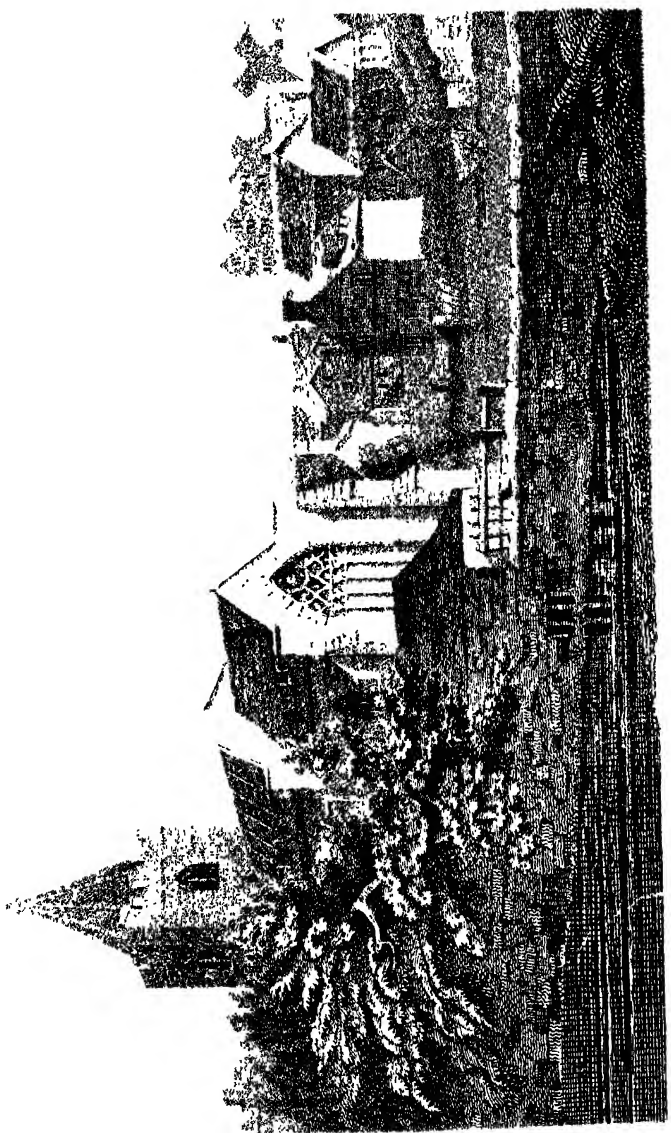
#### **BRADFORD,**

or **BRADENFORD**, is a considerable market and manufacturing town, situated on the banks of the Avon, at the distance of about thirty miles north-west from Salisbury, and      miles  
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† *Magas Britannia*.







south-west from London. The natural features of the country are bold and romantic: for an abrupt hill rises immediately on the north side of the river: and on the brow and sloping declivity of this eminence most of the buildings are placed.\* It derived its name, according to Camden, from its local position close to a broad ford on the river here: *Braden*, in Saxon, signifying broad. This town is of great antiquity, and seems to have been a place of considerable consequence anterior to the Norman era. It was then the site of a monastic institution, which is supposed to have been destroyed by the Danes,† and is remarkable as the scene of a bloody contest between Cenwalph, king of the West-Saxons, and a large body of his subjects who had revolted from him, under the conduct of Cuthred. This battle occurred in the year 652, and appears to have been decided in favour of the king, as he continued to enjoy his crown for many years.‡ In a synod convened at this town in 954, the celebrated Dunstan, whose treachery and craft at Calne have been noticed in our general narrative of historical events, was elected Bishop of Worcester.

Of the history of Bradford for several centuries posterior to the Conquest, little or nothing is known; but it must have retained some degree of importance, as we find it mentioned among the towns which were privileged by Edward I. to send two members to parliament. It only, however, exercised this privilege upon one occasion, when, as we are informed by Browne Willis in his "*Notitia Parliamentaria*," Thomas Deering and William Wager were the deputed representatives.—Whether it forfeited the right, it had thus acquired, by neglect,

\* The annexed view, shews the east end of the church, with some contiguous houses, and others on the brow of the hill.

† It is thus mentioned by Tanner in his *Notitia*.—"Here was an ancient monastery dedicated to St. Lawrence, founded by St. Aldhelm, who was abbot here at the time of his being made Bishop (of Winchester) viz. A. D. 705. King Ethelred gave it to the great nunnery at Shaftesbury A. D. 1001. And after that time I meet with no account of any religious society here."

‡ The Chronicle of England, by Joseph Strutt, Vol. I. p. 106.

lect, or was defranchised by the authority of government, is matter of doubt. It is also uncertain whether, at any time, it was constituted a borough by charter, with separate jurisdiction; but if it ever was, this distinction also must have been lost very soon after its acquisition. It is still, however, the chief town of the hundred in which it is situated, and gives name to it. The government is vested in two justices of the peace. The market-day here is Monday, weekly; and there is an annual fair on Trinity Monday.

Bradford is chiefly built on the declivity of a hill, and is divided into two parts, called the *Town*, and the *New-Town*, these parts being divided by the river Avon. The houses are constructed of stone, and the streets are mostly very narrow. Leland gives the following account of this town in his *Itinerary* (Vol. II. p. 28.) "The toun self of Bradford stoundith on the clining of a rocke, and hath a meetely good market ons a weeke. The toun is made al of stone, and standith as I cam to it, on the farther ripe of Avon. There is a chapelle on the highest place of the toun as I enterid. The fair large parochie Chirch standith bynethe the bridg on Avon ripe. The vicarage is at the west end of the chirch. The personage is L poundes by the yere, and was impropriate to Shaftesbyri Abbey. Hauille dwellith in a pratie stone house in the este ende of the toun in *dextra ripa Aronae*. Haule, alias de la Sale, a man of an 100 li. landes by the yere. There is a fair house of the building of one Horton a rich clothier at the north est part of the chirch. This Hortons wife yet lyvith. This Horton builded a goodly large chirch house *ex lapide quadrato* at the este end of the chirch yard without it. This Horton made divers fair houses of stone in Thoroughbridg toun. One Lucas a clothier now dwellith in Horton's house in Bradeforde. Horton left no children. At the toun of Bradeford stoundith by clooth making. Bradeford Bridge hath 9 fair arches of stone." This bridge yet remains, and is a very picturesque object. On one of the piers is a small square building, with a pyramidical roof, which may perhaps have been originally designed

signed as a chapel, where contributions were levied for the support of the hospital which stood at one end of the bridge, and was, according to Tanner "of the king of England's foundation." The larger chapel above-mentioned by Leland was most likely the chapel belonging to this hospital, which is now completely demolished. This bridge is certainly of great antiquity, but the exact era of its erection, as well as the name of the founder, are unknown. At this place there is another bridge of four arches over the Avon.

The charitable institutions in Bradford are two Alms-houses, and a Charity-school, for the education of sixty boys, which was opened in 1712, and is supported by voluntary subscriptions. One of the alms-houses, situated at the western extremity of the town, was founded and endowed by *John Hall, Esq.* the last of the Bradford family of that name. His ancestors were residents here from the time of Edward I. Some of them were men of eminence, and intermarried with families of the first distinction. *John Hall, Esq.* above-mentioned married, in 1561, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Thynne, and sister to Thomas Thynne, Esq. commonly called "Tom of Ten Thousand," who was murdered by Count Conigsmark.\* This gentleman was executor to his unfortunate brother-in-law; and was the individual at whose cost and expense the monument in Westminster-Abbey was erected to his memory. He took his title from the town of Bradford, where he had a large house, which is thus characterized and described by John Aubrey, R. S. S. in a memorandum respecting his history of Wiltshire, dated 1686:—"Here I would have John Hall, Esq. of Bradford's fine house. This is the best house for the quality of a gentleman in Wiltshire: it is of the best sort of architecture in K. James the first time. It is built all of freestone: full of windows: hath two wings. The top all around with railles and ballisters. Two, if not three elevations or ascents to it: which are adorned with terrasses, with rails and  
**VOL. XV.—March, 1814. 2-I. barristers.**

\* Collins's Peerage by Brydges, Vol. II. p. 503. See also before, p. 297.

barristers : it faces the river Avon S. which is about two furlongs distant. On the other side beyond a rich meadow rises a high hill. Now *a priori* I doe conclude that if one were on the beginning of that hill opposite to the ye house that there must be heard a very good echo : and probably if one stand E or west, or at a due distance, the wings will afford a double echo."

Bradford Church is a spacious and ancient edifice of stone, and consists of a nave, north aisle, chancel, and chapel on the south side, together with a tower and small steeple at the west end. In two of the windows are many fragments of modern painted glass; but most of the panes have been broken or injured. These windows were presented by John Ferret, Esq. of London, (who was a native of Bradford,) about the year 1770.\* This church contains several monumental erections. Under a double-pointed arch in the wall on the south side of the chancel is a very large and old tomb, which supports the recumbent figure of a knight in armour, with a shield on his left arm, and a sword in his right hand. There is no inscription. In the north wall is another niche, containing a monumental effigy of a lady, much mutilated. Here is likewise a large monument, with a whole length figure in white marble, inscribed to a person of the name of *Charles Steward*. The living of the church is a vicarage, in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Bristol. Included in this parish are the hamlets of Westwood, Holt, Atworth, *alias* Atford, South-Wraxhall, Stoke, and Winsley, each of which has its separate chapel of ease.

On the eastern side of the town is a very large old house, which was formerly the residence of the Duke of Kingston.† It is now let out in separate apartments to workmen and their families.

\* This gentleman bequeathed a donation of 10*l.* to be laid out in bread, and distributed among the poor, monthly; also a smaller bequest to be expended in the purchase of moral and religious books, also to be given to the poor.

† In Lady Russell's Letters, published in three volumes, the Duke of Kingston's house is mentioned.

families. Several other large old mansions are situated in the immediate vicinity. That of the Halls was some years ago occupied by — Yerbury, Esq.

Bradford parish, with Trowle, according to the population returns of 1811, contains 571 houses, and 2989 inhabitants, who are chiefly engaged in the manufacture of fine broad cloths, and of a few kerseymeres and fancy pieces. Of the broad cloths above twelve thousand pieces are annually made in this parish.

The government of the poor in Bradford is conducted upon the plan recommended by Dr. Townshend, of Pewsey, which differs materially from the mode usually adopted in other parishes. They are entrusted entirely to the care of a single overseer, who is elected by housekeepers paying the nine-penny rate. This officer holds his appointment for life, and has a salary of 50*l.* per annum. In matters regarding the health of the lower orders the same practice is followed. A surgeon is allowed a salary of fifty guineas to attend all the sick poor; and has besides two shillings and six-pence for every inoculation and delivery.

The Kennet and Avon Canal passes by Bradford, and opens a communication, by water carriage, with the cities of Bath, Bristol, and London, and with the towns of Trowbridge, Devizes, Hungerford, Reading, &c. This canal, in its way towards Bathford, follows the course of the Avon, which it crosses at different points on aqueduct bridges, one of which is situated in the neighbourhood of Bradford. The banks of this river below the town exhibit many beautiful and picturesque scenes. The sides of the hills are covered with a profusion of trees, and in some places rise with great boldness from the margin of the river.

The lordship of Bradford, with the foundation of St. Aldhelm, and the parsonage, was given by King Ethelred to the Nunnery of Shaftesbury, as an atonement for the murder of his half-brother, by Queen Elfrida.\* At the dissolution of that monastery King Henry VIII. granted the parsonage to the dean and chapter of

\* Wyndham's Domesday-Book. Wiltshire.

his newly established cathedral of Bristol; but seems to have reserved the manor and hundred in the possession of the crown. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, however, these were conferred on Sir Francis Walsingham, one of her celebrated ministers. They are now the property of Paul Cobb Methuen, Esq. of Corsham-house.

WESTWOOD is a small village situated within the parish of Bradford, and about two miles to the south-west of the town. The houses here almost all bear the marks of antiquity, as well as the church, which consists of a nave, north aisle, and chancel, with a square tower at the west end. The chancel and north aisle are of older date than the nave. The windows of the aisle display much stained glass, with representations of the crucifixion, and inscriptions. The roof of this part of the church, and several of the seats are ornamented with curious carved work; and in the nave is a small niche, adorned with zig-zag moulding. Westwood, though locally situated in the hundred of Bradford, belongs to the hundred of Elstub and Everley. It is a chapelry to Bradford. Near it is the manor-house, which, with adjacent lands, is the property of the Dean of Winchester.

About five miles west of Trowbridge is the parish and village of FARLEY, FARLEIGH, FARLEY-MONTFORD, or FARLEY-HUNGERFORD, part of which is in Wiltshire, and the remainder in Somersetshire. In a former volume (XIII.) of this work, Farley has been noticed, and some particulars narrated respecting the castle; but as parts of that account are inaccurate, and some essential characteristics of the parish are unnoticed, it is thought advisable to supply those defects. Besides, the ancient lords of Farley formerly possessed several manors and much landed property in Wiltshire, and their names are intimately connected with the history of the county. The Hungerfords appear to have been anciently seated at Hungerford, on the eastern verge of this county, and removed to Farley in the time of King Richard II.

Farley was for many ages distinguished as the seat of men of great

great power and eminence in the respective periods at which they lived. When the general survey was taken soon after the Norman Conquest, the lordship of this place belonged to Roger de Curcelle, to whom it had been given by the conqueror. On the death of that powerful baron, it reverted to the crown, and was granted by William Rufus to Hugh de Montfort, son to Thurstan de *Bastenbergh*, another Norman of distinction. This Hugh, who was slain in a duel, left behind him an only son of his own name as heir to his estates. The last was twice married, and had several children, but all of them died young, with the exception of one daughter, who afterwards became the wife of *Gilbert de Gant*, whose son, Hugh, assumed the name of *Montfort*. He espoused Adeline, daughter of Robert, Earl of Mellent, who brought him two sons and two daughters. From Robert, the eldest of his sons, was descended Sir Henry de Montfort, who, towards the close of the reign of Henry III. had his baronial seat at Farley, and from whom that village obtained the appellation of Farley-Montfort, to distinguish it from the Farley in Wiltshire, now known by the name of Monkton-Farley. He was succeeded by Sir Reginald de Montfort, who, in the tenth year of Edward III. made over his property in Farley-Montfort to Bartholemew, Lord *Burghersh* and his heirs. This nobleman was a baron of great power in the reigns of Edward II. and III. He particularly distinguished himself in the wars in Scotland and France; and was present at the celebrated battle of Cressy, whence he and Sir Giles Hungerford brought many of those spoils and trophies with which Farley Castle was subsequently adorned. He obtained from Edward III. a charter of free warren for his demesne lands here, and at Wellow. His lordship's successor was a son of his own name, who left an only child, a daughter, married to Edward, Lord Le *Despenser*. This lady survived her husband, and leaving no issue, she sold Farley to Sir Thomas Hungerford, Knt.\* who obtained a confirmation

213

\* Collinson, in his history of Somersetshire, (Vol. III. p. 353,) calls him Thomas, Lord Hungerford, but he was only knight, and "Dominus de Farley et Wellow." i. e. lord of the



firmation of the grant of free-warren for this manor, and fortified the old mansion with four lofty towers, and two embattled gateways. He died in 1398, leaving this estate in dower to his wife, Joan, (daughter to Sir Edward Hussey,) who deceased March 1, 1412, and was succeeded by her son *Sir Walter Hungerford*. This knight distinguished himself by his military prowess in France, and had a grant of 100 marks per annum, payable out of the town and castle of *Marlborough*, as some recompence for his expences in the wars undertaken by his sovereign against that country. He had likewise 100 marks payable out of the alnage of cloth in Wiltshire, and a grant of a barony, and of a castle and lands in Normandy. Henry VI. summoned him to parliament as Lord Hungerford, some years before his death, which happened August 9, 1749, when he was buried in Salisbury Cathedral.\* Robert, his son, succeeded him in his estates and title, and married Margaret, daughter and sole heiress of William, Lord Botreaux. He died May 14, 1459, and was buried in Salisbury Cathedral, where his widow founded the Hungerford chapel with a chantry for two priests. This second Lord Hungerford was succeeded by a son of his own name, who was a firm Lancastrian, and having been taken prisoner at Alnwick, suffered death at Newcastle in the third year of Edward IV. when his estates were confiscated to the crown. Richard I. granted the manor and castle of Farley in special tail to John Howard, Duke of Norfolk; but Henry VII. reversed the attainder of the Hungerfords, and restored their patrimonial estates and honours to Thomas, fourth Lord Hungerford. This nobleman married Anne, daughter of Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland, by whom he had one daughter, his chief heir, afterwards wife to Edward, *Lord Hastings*; but as the manor and castle of Farley were entailed on the heirs male of the family, they descended, with some other manors and estates, to *Walter* the second son of Robert, third Lord Hungerford. This *Walter*, who

\*In *Brydges's* edition of *Collins's Peerage* he is erroneously said to have been buried in the chapel of Farley Castle. See also before, p. 176.

who had signalized himself at the battle of Bosworth-field, was one of the privy-council to Henry VIII. and married Jane, daughter of William Bulstrode, by whom he had issue Sir Edward Hungerford, of Heytesbury, in Wiltshire. Sir Edward died before his father, leaving issue a son, *Walter*, who succeeded to the barony of Hungerford, but being attainted in parliament, suffered death on Tower-hill, along with Cromwell, Earl of Essex, July 28, 1540. This Walter, Lord Hungerford, was thrice married. By his first wife, Susan, daughter of Sir John *Dantsey*, of Dantsey, in this county, he had a son, Sir *William Hungerford*, of Farley Castle, whose son and heir, Edward, died young. By his second wife, Alice, daughter of William, Lord Sandys, he had Sir Walter Hungerford, Knt. (who had issue Edward, who died young); and Lucy, who married a relation of her own, Sir Anthony Hungerford, of Blackburton, in Oxfordshire; and Sir Edward Hungerford, who succeeded to the estate. He dying without issue, the manor and castle of Farley descended to Sir *Edward Hungerford* (son to Sir Anthony above-mentioned,) who was a knight of the Bath, and died in 1648, leaving his estates to a son of his own name. This gentleman was knighted at the coronation of Charles II. and foolishly involved his affairs in such difficulties, that in 1686 the manor and castle of Farley were sold by his trustees to *Henry Baynton*, of Spye Park; and were afterwards resold under a decree of Chancery to *Joseph Houlton*, Esq. whose daughter and heiress married James Frampton, Esq.\* but he having no issue by her, the estate reverted at his death to the family of Houlton, and is now the property of Lieutenant-Colonel Houlton.

The baronial mansion of Farley, or Farley-Castle, is seated on a ledge, or terrace of a bold rocky hill, which has a very abrupt descent to the north, north-east, and north-west. On its southern side the hill rises higher than the castle, and there-

\* Collinson says that Farley went to the family of Frampton "by the marriage of the heiress of James Frampton." Of is plainly a mistake or is.

fore commands its walls and towers. It appears to have been originally built by Robert de Curthose, the first Norman proprietor of the manor. Subsequent possessors, however, made many alterations and additions at different periods, particularly the Hungerfords, so that it is probable very little of the first structure remained when it passed from that family to the Bayntons. In its most perfect state this castle consisted of two courts, or wards, which were surrounded by a lofty embattled wall and a moat. It had two entrances, one on the east, and the other to the west. The former was guarded by a drawbridge, thrown over the moat opposite to an embattled gatehouse leading into the southern, or outer-court, around which were the offices, stables, store-houses, and guard-rooms.\* The shell of the gatehouse is still standing, and exhibits a large pointed arch, with a square window over it, which supports a large stone, having the arms of Hungerford, with the initials E. H. sculptured upon it in alto-relievo. Another gateway, also adorned with the Hungerford arms, led into the northern, or inner court, which measured 180 feet in length from east to west, and 144 feet in breadth from north to south. This court was flanked by four round towers, sixty feet in height, and contained the great hall and the state apartments, which are traditionally reported to have exceeded in magnificence those of any other baronial mansion in England, having been "decorated with rich tapestry, exquisite sculpture, and beautiful paintings."† The hall was hung

\* The annexed plate shows the "ivy-clad towers" of the castle, the chapel, the entrance gate-house, &c. as seen from the north-east.

† Leland's words, in describing this castle, are—"From Through-bridge to Castle-Farley about a 3 miles by good corne and pasture and nere Farley self plenty of wood. Or I cam to the Castle I passid over Frome Water, passing by there yn a Rokky Valey and Botow, where the water brekith into Armelettes and makith Islettes, but sone meting agayn with the principale streame, wherby there be in the causey diverse smali Bridges. This Water rennith hard under the botow of the Castle and there driveth a mylle. The Castle is sette on a rokky hille. Ther be divers praty towres in the utter

hung round with suits of armour worn by its martial possessors, and with spoils from the fields of Cressy, Poitiers, Agincourt, and Calais. Of these buildings no perfect part remains; but the extent of the inclosed area, and the sizes and forms of the towers, may be ascertained. In the lower ward were four round towers, connected by passages and apartments: and at the south-west angle was another round tower; whilst a sixth was placed near the centre of the south wall. But of all the parts of the castle, the Chapel in this court is the most entire, and is most deserving of notice. Attached to it, on the north, is a small chantry chapel, or monumental oratory, dedicated to St. Anne; and both contain six ancient monuments. The tomb of *Sir Thomas Hungerford*, and his wife, Joanna, is placed under an arch dividing the body of the chapel from the oratory. It is altar-shaped, and supports two recumbent statues of a man and woman. The former is habited in armour, and the female wears a veiled head-dress. Round the sides of this tomb are several shields in panels, with eight niches between, formerly containing eight statues of knights and ladies, but only six are left of the latter. The inscriptions upon "two schochins or plates of brasse," are thus quoted by Leland:\*

"Hic

utter warde of the Castelle. And in this utter warde ys an auncient chapelle and a new chapelle annexid onto it." Here follow the epitaphs of Thomas Hungerford, and Joanna, his wife, mentioned in the text, and some account of the Hungerford family; after which the author proceeds thus:—"Ther longgid 2 chauntre prestes to this chapel, and they had a praty mansion at the very est end of it. The gate house of the inner Courte of the Castelle is fair, and ther be arms of the Hungrefordes richley made yn stone. The Haule and 3 chambers withyn the second Courte be stately. Ther is a commune saying that one of the Hungrefordes baillid this part of the Castelle by the praye of the Duke of Orleance whom he had taken prisoner."—*Itinerary*, Vol. II. p. 31, 32.

\* Leland's *Itinerary*. ubi supra.

" Hic Jacet Thomas Hungerford Chevalier Dñs de Farley Welew et Heitesbyri qui obiit 3 die December A. D. 1398, cujus animæ propitiatur Deus. Amen.

" Hic jacet Domina Joanna uxor ejusdem Thomæ Hungerford, filia Di Edmundi Husee Militis quæ obiit prima die mensis Martii A. D. 1412."\*

In the middle of the oratory is another very large and stately altar-tomb of fine white marble standing on black marble steps. The slab is also of black marble, and is eight feet long, and five broad. On this lie the effigies of *Sir Edward Hungerford*, and *Lady Margaret*, his wife, exquisitely sculptured in white marble. The knight is represented in armour, with a sword by his side; and the female is dressed in a loose robe, and has a demi lion supporting an anchor at her feet. The west end of this tomb displays a large shield with fifteen different armorial bearings blazoned thereon, shewing the intermarriages of the family of Hungerford. The following inscription appears on the south side :

" PROSTRATOS HUIC NARMORI HABES ICONISMOS  
PARIS HONORATISSIMI.

Dñi Edward Hungerford honorabilis ordinis Balniensis militis filii illustrissimi viri Anthonii Hungerford de Blackborton, in agro Oxon equitis aurati, et Lucie uxoris ejus ex nobillissima prosapia Hungerfordorum de castro Farleighensi in Com. Somerset. Oriundæ religionis in Deum, zeli in Patriam, amoris in uxorem, pietatis in parentes, fidei in amicos celeberrimi exemplaris, Deo vixit Patriæ Annos 52 suis serenissime obdormiuit 23<sup>o</sup> Octobris anno salutis 1648. \* Resurgemus.

Dominae Margaetæ Hungerford conjugis dilectissimæ filia et cohered, insignissimi viri Gulielmi civis et Aldermani Lond. et Susannæ uxoris ejus postea Comitissimæ Warwicensis in cujus encomium plurima fas est dicere sed superstes vetat—ista in futuro.

Attached

This lady by her will ordered three thousand masses to be celebrated for soul, &c. and bequeathed 200 marks, then in the hands of her son, towards

Attached to the north wall of this oratory is an altar-tomb of freestone, with an inscription on the top so much obliterated as to render it illegible. In the time of Collinson, however, it seems to have been more entire, as he gives it at full length as quoted in the XIIIth volume of this work, ascribing it to a *Sir Edward Hungerford* and his wife, Jane, daughter to *Sir Anthony Hungerford*, of Downe-Amney.

A similar tomb stands close to the west wall of the chapel. On the front, in bold relief, are sculptured the figures of a lady kneeling at a desk, attended by four boys and two girls in kneeling attitudes. There is no inscription on this tomb; but, from the arms, it evidently commemorates some female of the *Hungerford* family. A brass against the wall points out a mural slab raised to the memory of "the right noble and truly virtuous *Mrs. Mary Shaa*, daughter to the right honourable *Walter*, Lord *Hungerford*, sister and heire generall to the right noble *Sir Edward Hungerford*, Knt." She died Sep. 1613. At the south-east angle of the chapel is a large altar-tomb of stone, to the memory of *Sir Walter Hungerford, Knight*, and *Edward*, his son, with the date of 1585. On the floor, near the door, is a flat stone, with the figure of a man in robes on it, said to commemorate *Sir Giles Hungerford*, temp. *Edward III.*

The present proprietor of *Farley-House* has paid particular and very laudable attention to the preservation of the castle and chapel. He has also decorated the interior of the latter with a vast assemblage of ancient armour, ranged and classed in complete suits.

In the Vault under this chantry are deposited eight leaden coffins, containing the embalmed bodies of six adults and two children. These coffins bear a strong similitude in shape and general appearance to the cases of Egyptian mummies. The features of a face, in bold relief, are distinctly formed upon them;

wards founding a chantry for one chaplain in this chapel. *Sir Walter* not only faithfully executed the trust of his mother, but also founded another chantry for one chaplain to pray for the good estate of himself and his wife, *Catharine*.

them; and the form of the body is as much preserved as possible, the coffin tapering gradually from the shoulders to the feet. Here is also an urn of lead eighteen inches high, and twelve in diameter, which held the bowels of the embalmed persons.—Who these were is somewhat uncertain; but, from an inscription on a copper breast-plate, Sir Edward Hungerford, of Corsham, who died in 1648, appears to have been one of them. The others are supposed by Collinson to have been Lady Margaret, wife of the above Sir Edward; a former Sir Edward and his three wives, with the infant children of the two first, both of whom died in childhood.

On the eastern side of this chapel was the house appropriated for the residence of the two chantry priests already named. It is now converted into a dairy farm-house.

MARGARET PLANTAGENET, daughter to George, Duke of Clarence, and niece to Edward IV. and Richard III. was born in this castle on the 14th of August, 1473. This princess was the last who bore the name of Plantagenet. Her brother, Edward, Earl of Warwick and Salisbury, having been attainted and put to death by Henry VII. she petitioned Parliament to inherit his titles and estates, which was granted. She married Sir Richard Pole, (a knight of Wales, and cousin-german to Henry VII.) by whom she had several children, whereof Henry, Lord Montague, and Cardinal Pole, were the most noted. The latter was the chief cause of all the calamities which eventually befel herself and family, his political manœuvres, in the capacity of Pope's Cardinal having excited the suspicion and revenge of Henry VIII. Lord Montague was beheaded on a charge of treason in 1538; and his mother met the same fate in 1541, after a close confinement of two years in prison. When on the scaffold, she refused to submit her head to the block, so that the executioner was compelled to fulfil his duty by main force.\*

South

\* *Antiquities of Warwickshire*, by Sir William Dugdale, p. 335, 1656.—*Fuller's Worthies of England*, Vol. II, p. 439.—*Collinson's History of Somersetshire*, Vol. III, p. 562.

South of the Castle is the village *Church* of Farley, which is a plain building, with only one pace, or nave and a chancel. In the windows are some pieces of ancient stained-glass. Over the south door-way is the following inscription, cut in stone, in old letters :

INVIAT HOC TEMPLV CRUCE GLORIFICANS. MICROCOSMV, Q. GENVIT.  
XPM. MISERIS. PCE FIAT ASLYM.

About half a mile south of the church is FARLEY-HOUSE, the seat and property of Lieutenant-Colonel Houlton, who has recently rebuilt the mansion, and made numerous alterations and improvements in the park, and in all the parish. The external form, and ornaments of the house, may be partly understood from the annexed print, which shews the principal, or eastern front, with the south side towards the flower-garden. On this side are an elegant drawing-room, library, (in the centre) conservatory, green-house, &c. In the middle of the east side is a very elegant hall and staircase, decorated with painted-glass windows, and suits of fine armour. On the right hand of the hall is a spacious dining-room. The whole outside of this edifice is composed of fine freestone; and the cornices, friezes, parapets, and pinnacles, are enriched with bold sculpture. In directing the execution of this building the worthy proprietor has evinced laudable perseverance and knowledge. Several interesting pictures, and a choice library of books, conspire to adorn and enrich the interior of this hospitable mansion.

GREAT COMBERWELL, or COMERWELL, situated about two miles to the north of Bradford, was formerly a seat of the Bayntons, of Spyre-park. Beyond this, about a similar distance, stands WRAXHALL-HOUSE, the original property of the family of Long, the rise of which is thus noticed by Leland:—"Mr. Long had a little maner about a mile from Munketone Farley at Wrexley. The original setting up of the house of the Longes, cam as I learnid from Mr. Bonehom by these meanes. One Long Thomas, a stoute felaw, was sette up by one of the old Lordes



Lordes Hungrefordes, and after by cause this Thomas was caullid Long Thomas. Long after was usurped for the name of the family. This Long Thomas had some lande by Hungerfordes procuration. Then succeeded hym Robert and Henry. Then cam one Thomas Long, descending of the younger brother, and could skille of the lawe, and had the inheritances of the aforesaid Longes. Syr Henry and Sir Richard Long were sunnes to this Thomas"\* This seat still continues in the possession of the same family, and was for many years occupied by Mrs. Catharine Long, (the last surviving sister of Walter Long, Esq.) who died in the month of February, 1814. She left upwards of 150,000*l.* in personal property, of which 50,000*l.* was bequeathed to more than a hundred different legatees; and the remainder to the Rev. Charles Coxwell, of Abingdon, and Thomas Bruges, Esq. of Melksham, her steward.

At MONKTON-FARLEY, *Fernleghe*, or *Farlega*, a small village to the westward of Wraxhall, may still be seen some remains of an ancient Priory, which is thus mentioned in Tanner's Notitia:—"Humphrey de Bohun the second gave the church here to the priory of Lewes, (in Com. Suff.) from whence a convent of Cluniac monks was placed here about the year 1125, which continued subordinate to Lewes till the general suppression; about which time herein were a prior and twelve monks, who were found to have revenues to the yearly value of 153*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* ob. Dugd.—152*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.* M. S. Ben.—217*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.* ob Speed. It was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, and granted 28 Henry VIII. to Sir Edward Seymour, Viscount Beauchamp." The Empress Maud was a great benefactor to this monastery, as was likewise King Henry III.

In 1744, upon digging into the site of the ruins of this priory, the floor of the chancel was discovered with several tombs and remains of some of the inmates of the priory. One of these, an altar-

\* Itinerary, Vol. II, p. 28.

† Monthly Magazine for March, 1814.

altar-tomb, now at Lacock-Abbey, had the following inscription, engraved on a brass plate :

“ Hic jacet Ilbertus de Cai bonitate refertus.  
Qui cum Broutona dedit hic perplurima dona.”

Another tomb, of a similar shape, displayed on its cover the mutilated effigy of a man, with a lion at his feet. In this tomb was deposited a male skeleton upwards of six feet in length. A grave on the north side of the altar also contained some bones ; and near it was a flat stone, inscribed to the memory of prior Lawrence. Of late years many other tombs have been discovered here, as well as a variety of architectural fragments, which evince that this church must have been at once a beautiful and costly structure.\*

*Monkton Farley House*, to the north of the village, is the property of the Duke of Somerset, and was for a considerable time the residence of Lord Webb Seymour.

WARLEY-HOUSE, the seat of Colonel Skrine, is situated about a mile and a half to the south-west of Farley. It is a large new building, in the castellated form, and stands immediately at the base of a bold eminence enveloped among trees.

HOLT is a small village, situated three miles north-east from Bradford : with the adjoining hamlets of Leigh and Woolley included, contains, according to the parliamentary returns of 1811, 369 houses, and 1812 inhabitants. The church is an ancient edifice, and has a niche over its western door, which has the appearance of having been formerly filled by a statue. But what renders this place most worthy of notice is the celebrity of its mineral spring, which was discovered upwards of a century ago, and has ever since continued to dispense the blessings of health  
to

to numerous patients who drink its waters. Two treatises are mentioned by Gough\* as having been written to explain the medicinal virtues of this spring. One of them was published anonymously in 1723; and the other under the name of "Henry Eyre, sworn purveyor to her majesty for all mineral waters," in 1731. In the latter treatise "one hundred and twelve eminent cures" are narrated as having been effected by the use of the Holt waters, after medicine had been used in vain. Mr. David Arnôt, long proprietor of this Spa, was the author of the "Commercial Tables" which bear his name. He likewise wrote a description of Stonchenge, which accompanied the first of a series of medals, intended to represent all the Druidical monuments in England.

### MELKSHAM

is a considerable manufacturing and market-town, situated at the distance of twenty-eight miles north-west from Salisbury, and ninety-five miles west by south from London. Though passed over without notice both by Leland and Camden, it is undoubtedly a town of high antiquity, and was most probably a place of consequence before, and for several centuries after, the Norman Conquest. From Domesday book it appears to have been the lordship of King Harold, and to have constituted one of the royal demesnes, which continued to appertain to the crown in the person of King William. "The king holds Melchesham. Earl Harold held it, and, with its appendages, it was assessed at 84 hides. Here are 60 ploughlands. Thirty-four of these hides are in demesne, wherein are 19 ploughlands, and 35 servants, and 31 coliberts. Ninety-two villagers and 66 borderers occupy 39 ploughlands. Eight mills pay 7 pounds and 6 shillings. There are 130 acres of meadow, and the pasture is 12 miles square. The wood is six miles square. This manor pays 111 pounds and 11 shillings by weight. But the English value it

at the same sum by tale. Rumoldus, the priest, has the church of this manor, with 1 hide, which is worth 40 shillings." \*

According to the compiler of *Magna Britannia*, William the Conqueror established a court of royal jurisdiction at this place. The ground on which this conclusion is made to rest is the statement, as historical fact, that Maud, one of the daughters of William de Say, by a fine levied in the king's court at Melksham, had an assignment of her share of her father's lands with the consent of her sister, Beatrix, wife of Jeffery Fitzpiers, Earl of Essex. In the reign of King John this town continued to hold of the crown, and, estimating by the proportion of tallage it then paid, it appears to have been the richest and most populous town in Wiltshire. "In the first year of King John there was a tallage of the king's manours in Wiltshire. To that tallage the town of Malmesbury paid C s. Calne x marks, Melkesham xij marks. Cumb xl s, Saresbury xl s, and other towns in their respective sums."†

The above quotation and statement completely overturn the prevailing opinion that Melksham is a town of modern origin; and tend strongly to shew that it was a royal borough in very early times. Many other circumstances serve to confirm this view of its history; viz. its giving name to the hundred in which it is situated, and also to an extensive forest in the neighbourhood, which was a favourite hunting place with Edward I.‡ From the proximity of this forest to that of Chippenham, both were con-

VOL. XV.—April 1814.

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\* Wyndham's *Domesday Book*. Wiltshire.

† *History and Antiquities of the Exchequer*, by Thomas Madox, Esq. Vol. II. p. 705.

‡ Another very curious circumstance which supports the same conclusion is, that a part of Melksham, situated on the western bank of the Avon, is still denominated *The City*, though no reason can be assigned by the inhabitants for the appellation; even tradition being totally silent on the subject. It must certainly, however, have had its origin in some peculiarity connected with the ancient state of the town.

sided by that monarch to the custody of the same person, Matthew Fitz-John, governor of the castle of Devizes, who, having abused his trust, and committed great waste in it, the king took it for some time under his own immediate charge; but afterwards restored it to the custody of Fitz-John, upon promises of better management in future.

But though thus important in the early ages after the Conquest, Melksham appears to have sunk nearly into decay and oblivion in the reign of Henry VIII. as otherwise it would probably have been noticed by Leland, who visited the vicinity, and describes most of the surrounding towns and villages. In the next reign, however, it again began to revive; and, during the last century, had attained considerable consequence by the influence of trade. It was particularly noted for its manufacture of superfine cloths and kerseymeres, but its trade is now comparatively declined; as since the introduction of the present process in the cloth manufacture the advantages which the town was supposed to derive from its situation on the Avon are rendered almost nugatory. The market-day here is Monday, weekly; and there are thirteen fairs during the year, one on the second Monday of every month, and on the 27th of July. The petty sessions for Melksham and Tinhead division of the hundred are held in this town.

Melksham is a long, irregularly built town, and consists principally of one street. This occupies the acclivity of an eminence which rises from the river Avon. The houses are chiefly constructed of freestone, and individually possess an appearance of neatness. The Church is a large and spacious edifice, with a tower in the centre, and two transepts, or chapels, on the south side. A portion of this building is probably as old as the twelfth century, being supported by flat buttresses characteristic of that period. The whole is surmounted by battlements and pinnacles; and over the window of one of the transepts is sculptured the date 1645. In the interior are several monuments to the memory of the Andreys, of Secord, and the Selfs, of Benacre. Besides the church,

church, several other places are appropriated to public worship in Melksham, of which the principal are the meeting-houses of the Independents and Baptists. Methodists are less numerous here than in most trading towns in the west of England, though they have considerably increased within the last ten years.

Melksham parish, according to the parliamentary returns of 1811, contained 781 houses, and 4,110 inhabitants, viz. 1891 males, and 2219 females. These were comprised in 794 families, of which 231 were employed in agriculture, and 416 in trade and manufactures.

Adjoining to Melksham, on the south-west, is an old mansion which belonged to the late William Long, Esq. and is now possessed by the Misses Thresher, aunts to Sir Bourchier Wray.

About half a mile from the town has lately been discovered two mineral springs, the waters of which have attracted much popularity. Under judicious management it is highly probable that the springs of Melksham may vie in utility and celebrity with the much-famed waters of Cheltenham and Lemington. The waters of this place have been analysed by several gentlemen of the faculty. One of the springs is a strong chalybeate, and the other a saline aperient. The latter is particularly recommended by Dr. Gibbes as equally efficacious with the Cheltenham Spa in bilious and scorbutic complaints. Its waters contain, he observes, "several substances that are very active, and which determine the medical properties of many distinguished mineral waters. Its character is saline, and the quantity of saline ingredients is equal to that of the most celebrated springs. The salts contained in it are in their nature purgative, and therefore a constant effect on the bowels is the action this medicinal water produces whenever it is taken in suitable doses. A countervailing property in this water arises from the presence of some iron, thereby precluding that debility which so often follows the use of stronger purgatives." This character of the Melksham Spas however, is contradicted by Mr. Edwards, a surgeon of Bath; &c. in a small pamphlet, intitled "A Comparative View

of the Analyses of the Cheltenham and Melksham Waters," gives a decided preference to the former; and contends that the Melksham water, from being principally saturated with muriate of soda, (common sea salt) can have little meliorating influence on the animal system. But as this is a mere theoretical opinion, and opposed by the testimony of experience, it deserves little attention. It is incontestible that persons in Melksham have received great benefit from the waters here, which they were first led to use from observing their influence on the cattle that drank them. The situation of these springs so near to the town of Melksham, and in a fine salubrious country, abounding with wood, renders it peculiarly favourable for the establishment of a watering-place. Accordingly, convenient accommodations have been lately erected by Mr. Phillips, the proprietor of the springs.

SHAW-HILL-HOUSE, the seat of R. Heathcote, Esq. is situated about two miles north-west from Melksham. It is a modern edifice, built upon part of the common, and is surrounded by very agreeable, but circumscribed pleasure-grounds.

BOX is a small village situated near the confines of the county, at the distance of about five miles north from Bradford, and the same distance, east of Bath. The valley in which it is partly built is highly picturesque; and as it is intersected by the great road from Bath to London, it attracts the peculiar attention of all travellers who are capable of appreciating the beauties of nature. The vale consists of a fine tract of meadow land, watered by a rivulet deriving its name from the village, and bounded by almost parallel lines of undulating and abrupt hills, the sides of which are chequered with hamlets, villas, and plantations. The soil of the higher grounds is chiefly of that kind termed the stone brash i. e. a loamy soil mixed with rubbly stones of a compound nature, partly siliceous and partly calcareous. The under stratum is an extensive bed of freestone, of a very peculiar texture, which is commonly known by the name of *Bath stone*, from the circumstance of the greater part of the city of Bath having been constructed

constructed from quarries about a mile eastward from the village.\* As in almost all quarries of the same kind, the stone here lies in a position very little inclined from the horizontal; and being, previous to exposure to the air, extremely pervious to water, it is easily raised in any required shape. After it has been brought from the quarry, however, and has sustained for a short time the action of the atmosphere, it acquires a degree of hardness and durability, of which, when first wrought, it does not appear susceptible. This stone is dug up in blocks of various sizes, and is conveyed to Bath in waggons, and thence by the canal to Bristol, from which port it forms a considerable article of exportation to almost every part of the British dominions.†

At a short distance to the north of Box, and on the opposite side of the river, are two mineral springs, called MIDDLE-HILLS-SPA, which, after being discovered, remained neglected for some time; till at length a medical practitioner in Bath having ana-

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lysed

\* This stone is also known among builders by the appellation of Ashler stone, probably from the hamlet of Ashley, (adjoining to Box) which is often called by the inhabitants Ashler.

† It may not, perhaps, be improper to remark, that the freestone in this neighbourhood forms a portion of a vast tract of stone, which, commencing near St. David's Head in Pembrokeshire, and extending into the interior, in a north-easterly direction, exhibits various species, or modifications of limestone. In Caernarthenshire it is a hard, compact, irregular, massy limestone; in Glamorganshire, and part of Monmouthshire, a regular lamellar, or stratified limestone, particularly valuable for its durability under water; in St. Vincent's rocks, near Bristol Hot-Wells, it becomes a species of variegated marble, which takes a high polish, but is of too short a fracture to be useful in ornamental works. The line thence stretches towards Bath; and in the vicinity of Keynsham traps into a species of blue lias, horizontally stratified, in which great numbers of those curious shells, called *cornea ammonis*, or serpent stones, are found embedded. Passing Bath it traps into the compound, called freestone; and, after an extent of several miles, into an acrated calcareous matter, which forms the chalk downs in the neighbourhood of Marlborough, whence it extends to the maritime coast of Kent and Sussex.



lysed the waters, and ascertained their medicinal virtues, entered into a plan with another individual for erecting a lodging and boarding-house, pump-room, and other buildings, suitable for the reception of company, and the accommodation of invalids. This plan was accordingly carried into effect, but eventually proved unsuccessful; so that the buildings, thus raised at an immense expense, are now let as lodgings to such persons as are disposed to retire economically from Bath during the summer season. The springs here differ much from each other in their qualities and effects. The water of the one is strongly chalybeate, and impregnated with neutral salts, resembling, in a great degree, the waters of Cheltenham; while that of the other bears a strong affinity to the Harrowgate water. It is clear and sparkling, and contains a very large proportion of sulphur and carbonic acid.

On *Cheney-Court Farm*, to the north of the spa, and at the distance of about four miles from Bath, were dug up, in July, 1813, a variety of *Roman antiquities*, indicative of the former existence of a large Roman villa on the spot where they were discovered. These consisted of fragments of columns, with Tuscan capitals, small fragments of fresco paintings, pavements of Roman brick, small aqueducts, scarified tiles, indicative of baths and sudatories; places built up with horizontal flues, which appear to have had intense fires in them; a stone tablet, with a sort of groove round it for preparing the sacrifices; broken urns, basins, and other articles.

## CORSHAM.

**CORSHAM-REGIS**, or **COSHAM**, is a considerable village, situated between Box and Chippenham, at the distance of about five miles south-west from the latter town, and eight from Bath. It was formerly a market-town, but the market is now discontinued. Camden says it was a "a royal vill in the reign of King

King Ethelred,\* and was afterwards famous for the retirement of the Earls of Cornwall." Leland, who visited it in the time of Henry VIII. speaks of the place in these terms: " I left Chippenham a mile on the leste hand, and so went to Alington vil- lage about a mile of, and thens 3 miles to Cosham, a good uplandisch town, where be ruines of an old maner place; and therby a park wont to be yn dowage to the quenes of Englande. Mr. Baynton, yn Quene Annes' days,† pullid down, by liccns, a peace of this house sumwhat to help his buildings at Bromeham. Old Mr. Bouehome told me that Coseham appertained to the Erldom of Cornwalle, and that Cosham was a mansion place longging to it wher sumtyme they lay. All the memme of this townlet were bond; so that apon a tyme one of the erles of Corn- walle hering them secretely to lament their state manumittid them for mony, and gave them the lordship of Cosham in copie hold to paie a chief rente."‡

The situation of Corsham is flat, dry, and salubrious. The houses are all built of stone, and are principally ranged in one long street. Near the centre is a market, or court-house built in 1784 by Mr. Methuen, who intended to revive the market here, but without effect. The Church is a large edifice, consisting of

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a nave

\* This statement is probably founded on the following lines in Robert of Gloucester's Chronicles, p. 301. 8vo. Edit. 1724; reprinted 1810. . .

" Kyng Ayldred (Ethelred) lay syk in the toon of Cosham tho'  
In Westende of Wyltessyre, vor he was feeble and old,  
And wyth care and sorwe overcome, as me ath ytold.  
And from Cosham to Loudone he of scapede vnnethe  
Vor to wyte hym fram hys son, that him brogte hym to dethe."

† It is difficult to ascertain who is meant by Queen Anne, as Leland wrote in the time of Henry VIII. and before that time there was no reigning queen named Anne.

‡ Itinerary, Vol. II. p. 27, and in the Collectanea, Vol. I. p. 302, it is said, "Anno D. 1358, rex et regina fuerunt per totam fere estatem apud Marlbury, et Cosham." In the year 1358 the king (Edward III.) and queen spent almost the whole summer at Marlborough and Corsham.

a nave, a chancel, a chapel on the north side, and three aisles, with a tower and spire in the middle. On each side of the east window are niches, adorned with tabernacle work. Three niches likewise ornament the south porch; on one side of which are sculptured the letters E. M. H. and the date 1631. The same initials and date appear on the frieze both to the east and west of the porch. The interior of this church contains several monuments. In the chapel, on the north side, which is separated from the corresponding aisle by a rich "Gothic" screen, are two large ancient stone monuments: one of these, which commemorates *Sir William Hunnam*, is decorated with ten coats of arms, and several yokes for oxen in different compartments. The inscription is almost obliterated. In the chancel is a monument erected by Sir Edward Hungerford, knight of the Bath, in memory of *John and Thomas Hulbert*, dated 1632: and against the north wall are monuments to *William Chapman*, 1675; and *Richard Lewes*, 1706; also to the *Rev. Edward Wells*, first master of Corsham Free-school. The living of this church is a vicarage, in the patronage of the lord of the manor. The vicar possesses very extraordinary privileges, having episcopal jurisdiction within the parish.

Here was anciently, according to Tanner, an *Alien Priory*. "King William the Conqueror gave this church to the abbey of St. Stephen at Caen, in Normandy, and, as parcel of the late possessions of that foreign house king Henry VI. gave it to King's College, in Cambridge. But at present I am at a loss to reconcile this with the grant of the church, and some other things in this town made by King Henry II. to the Benedictine monks, 'De majori monasterio,' or of Marmonstier in Tourcuin, who had here a cell. This alien priory, which seems, during the wars with France, to have been in the custody of the bishop and church of Exeter, was given by Edward IV. towards the endowment of the monastery of Syon, and as parcel of the same granted 6 Jac. to Philip Moore. It was valued at 22l. 13s. 4d." In a note to the above quotation it is further said, "The church

is

is dedicated to St. Bartholomew : there were two religious houses in the town : one a friery, now the parsonage ; the other a nunnery, now the Red Lion Inn. So John Aubrey, in his collections about Wiltshire from the traditionary talk of the inhabitants."\*

Near the church stood a gaol and an old court-house, both of which were demolished upwards of thirty-years ago. An ancient market Cross, which stood opposite to the new market-house, was removed about the same time. At the south end of the town is an hospital for six poor aged women, to which a freeschool was formerly attached ; but the latter is now abandoned. This building was erected in 1668, and bears on its front the following commemorative inscription :

" *This Free-school and Almshouse was founded and endowed by the Lady Margaret Hungerford, relict of Sr Edward Hungerford, Knt. of the honourable order of the Bath ; daughter and coheire of Willm Halliday, Alderman of London, and Susan, his wife, daughter of Sr Henry, now Knight and Alderman, and Lord Mayor of London.*" Corsham Hospital is under the government of a master, who occupies a lodge adjoining to it. This office is in the presentation of the Earl of Radnor, as a descendant from the foundress.†

Corsham,

\* Notitia Monastica, Wiltshire.

† The late master of this hospital was EDWARD HASTED, F. R. S. and S. A. the well known historian of the county of Kent. He was the only son of Edward Hasted, Esq. of Hawley, in that county ; and was descended paternally from the noble family of Clifford, and maternally from the ancient family of the Dingleys, of Woolverton, in the Isle of Wight. The history of Kent engaged his attention for upwards of forty years, during which period he enjoyed affluence, and spared no expence to render his work complete and worthy of public patronage. For many years he acted as a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant of his native county, and executed his duties in these stations with the utmost zeal and activity. In the latter part of his life, however, he felt the pressure of adverse fortune, which forced him to abandon his residence in Kent, and to live in a retired situation in the vicinity of London. There he remained till his presentation to the master-ship

Corsham, previous to the Conquest, was the lordship of 'Tost, Earl of Northumberland, and after that event passed into the possession of the crown.\* How long it continued a royal domain is not recorded; but, in the time of Henry III. we find it had become the property of Richard, Earl of Cornwall, the king's brother. This nobleman, and his successors, granted to, and procured for Corsham many important and singular privileges, which have been confirmed in later times, and some of which are still claimed and enjoyed by the inhabitants. It is a separate jurisdiction of itself, the bailiff of the manor being vested with the powers of sheriff and coroner within the same, to the complete exclusion of the sheriff and coroner of the county. This officer

ship of Corsham Hospital, which he has himself styled "a most desirable asylum." About the same time he recovered his estates in Kent, (of which he had been defrauded,) by a decree of the Court of Chancery, and thus was enabled to pass the latter years of his life in competence, and even affluence. He died at the Master's Lodge here January 14, 1812.

Mr. Hasted is said to have been a gentleman of great classical attainments, and of refined and polished manners. Of his industry and accuracy of research into local history and antiquities, his "History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent" must remain a lasting record, so long as that useful species of knowledge continues to be cultivated. It is a work entitled to rank with the valuable labours of Dugdale, Thoresby, Blomefield, Nichols, and others, who have distinguished themselves in the same range of literature.—Gentleman's Magazine, 1812.

\* "The king holds Cossham. Earl Tost held it T. R. Ed. Here are 54 hides, but it was only assessed at 18 hides. Here are 50 ploughlands. Eleven of these hides are in demesne, wherein are seven ploughlands and 10 servants. Sixty-five villagers and 57 cottagers occupy 38 ploughlands. Here are two mills of the value of 8 shillings and sixpence, and 52 acres of meadow, and 1 hide of pasture, being 3 miles square. This manor, with its appendages, pays 30 pounds by weight. But the English value it at 31 pounds by tale. The abbey of St. Stephen at Caen possesses the church of this manor, with 3 hides, wherein are five ploughlands. Three villagers and 6 cottagers occupy these lands, and they are worth 7 pounds. Edg. holds the church of Pavesham which adjoins to this manor, and his father held it before him. It is worth 57 shillings." Wyndham, Domesday.

officer is chosen by, and from among the tenants themselves, and exercises his authority in conformity to the customs and laws of the manor.\*

Corsham,

\* These laws and customs, and the charters on which they are founded, are all entered in a register-book belonging to the manor, from which we extract the following particulars: •

1. Corsham lordship is an ancient demesne. All tenants were farmers in fee, and had their lands tried in courts of Corsham by writ of right. One of themselves to be baylie and coroner, not chargeable to answer or account to the Bauls of Cornwall. The said tenants have always used to choose two of themselves to gather the rents yearly, and deliver them to the baylie.

2. The baylie to take all surrenders and releases of all tenants and free farmers of the lordship, as well within as without the same, of all lands and tenements before the court held, and after taking to him two, three, or four of the tenants to record all such surrenders, &c. and present them so as the said Earl be answered of the fines and heriots of old accustomed; and every such surrender and release is as effectual in the law as if made before the steward and homage in the plaine court.

3. The baylie shall examine every wedded or single woman being an inheritrix, and every inheritor and pensioner in fee in taking every surrender, as shall one of the king's judges at common law, which being recorded, none making such surrender nor their heirs shall ever plead they were "Covert de Barne" neither "Demes age."

4. Of all distresses taken within the lordship, the baylie shall make replevin as the sheriff shall within the shire.

5. Widow of tenant may claim widows estate, and shall have her husband's land for her life, and at her death the natural heir may make his fine and be admitted; and if the steward will not admit him he shall occupy the land till he will admit him as tenant without offence to the Earl, &c.

6. Every tenant by the custom shall entayle his land by copy of court roll, within the lordship, as is done of land at large within the shire at common law.

7. All the land shall ascend and descend to heirs by custom.

8. Any tenant being indicted for felony or treason, or attainted and outlawed, or withdraws out of the county, the Earl shall not have his land, but the tythings shall seize it, and receive the profits till the death of said tenant, when the next heir shall claim and be admitted tenant.

9. Any tenant dying without heirs, his land shall not fall to the Earl, but

Corsham, during the latter part of the last century, was noted for its woollen manufactory; but this branch of trade is now entirely abandoned here. According to the population returns of 1811, the village and parish together contained 495 houses, and 2395 inhabitants, of whom the greater part were employed in agriculture.

SIR RICHARD BLACKMORE, a physician of some eminence, and a voluminous writer, was a native of Corsham. At the age of thirteen he became a pupil at Westminster School; and in 1668 entered at Edmund Hall, in Oxford, where he resided above twelve years, and took the degree of M. A. At an early period of his life he was necessitated to teach in a school for his livelihood; but this employment was only of short duration. He next travelled; and directing his attention to the study of medicine, was admitted doctor of physic at Padua. On his return to  
London

but to the tything, and the tything-man shall receive the profits till the tything man shall claim and be admitted.

10. If a man die actually seized of a yard land, half a yard land, cotsettle, or half cotsettle land, and hath a plough of oxen levant and couchant thereon, by the ancient custom of the manor, a yoke of his best oxen is due to the lord of the manor, and is to be seized by the baylie, and valued by him and two tenants, and notice given to the heir of the deceased that he may pay the value of the oxen and have them again, or else they are to be driven away. The heir accepteth this, and a baylie of the next court with the homage presenteth what is done. This hath been the constant custom within the said manor time out of mind, and never violated or infringed till of late days by Sir James Long, Bart.

Memorandum.—There is within the liberty of Corsham Regis another manor called the Rectory Manor, which hath a baylie or tything man of its own, whose office is to take surrenders of the tenants, &c. The Rectory tenants are within the liberty of Corsham Regis, and owe their suit and service to the court leet; and may fill all offices except baylie and coroner, and have always been in said court for false weights and measures, and for light and unwholesome bread, and other presentable offences.—The baylie of Corsham Regis sits on the bodies of rectory tenants who have come to their death by violence. Strays and felons goods of the Rectory tenants belong to the lord of Corsham Regis.

London he continued the same pursuit, and became a member of the College of Physicians in 1687. Having early evinced a strong attachment to the principles which brought about the Revolution in 1688, he was nominated by King William one of his physicians in ordinary, and was honoured with the dignity of knighthood in 1697. On the king's death, he was present at the opening of the body, and delivered his opinion on his majesty's disease. When Queen Anne ascended the throne he retained his situation as one of the royal physicians for some time, but at length resigned. Sir Richard died in October, 1729, at an advanced age, leaving behind him a vast number of productions both in prose and verse, which had constituted the amusement of his leisure hours. These were published at various periods, but all subsequent to the year 1695, when, contrary to the usual practice of poets, he ushered into the world a heroic poem, in ten books, intituled "Prince Arthur." This was followed by another heroic poem, called "King Arthur," in twelve books. The success of these works excited the jealousy and envy of some cotemporary bards, who exerted all the powers of their genius to ridicule and traduce the author. These attacks Sir Richard answered with great calmness; and, instead of diminishing, increased his ardor for poetry. As even to enumerate the various productions which flowed from his pen would exceed our limits, we shall content ourselves with noticing that only which is esteemed the best of all his works. This is his "Creation, a philosophical poem," which was highly applauded by Addison and Dennis; and of which Johnson remarks that "not only the greater parts are properly consecutive, but the didactic and illustrative paragraphs are so happily mingled, that labour is relieved by pleasure, and the attention is led on through a long succession of varied excellencies to the original position, the fundamental principle of wisdom and virtue."<sup>a</sup>

CORSHAM

<sup>a</sup> Works of Samuel Johnson, LL.D. Vol. XII. p. 150, 18mo. Edit. 1806.—General Biographical Dictionary, by Chalmers.



CORSHAM-HOUSE, the seat and property of Paul Cobb Methuen, Esq. adjoins the north-east end of the town. For many years this mansion has been the receptacle of a choice and extensive collection of pictures, and is therefore much frequented by amateurs and professors of the fine arts. The original part of the present edifice was built about the year 1582, by William Halliday, Esq. \* the then proprietor of the lordship, on the site of the old manor-house mentioned by Leland as being entirely ruinous when he visited this place, in the reign of Henry VIII. The style of the building, in conformity to the fashion of the age, was an incongruous mixture of Grecian, Roman, and English architecture, at once offensive to genuine taste, and science. What alterations it underwent, or by whom it was possessed † during the seventeenth century, we have not ascertained, nor indeed are any particulars of its history specified till the year 1747, when it was purchased by Paul Methuen, Esq. father to the present proprietor. This gentleman employed Launcelot Brown, Esq. to enlarge and improve the house, which he did by adding a suite of rooms on the east side, consisting of a gallery and state apartments for the reception of Sir Paul Methuen's collection of pictures, the only one we believe which has continued perfect to the present day, of those formed by cotemporary amateurs in England. Upon trial, however, these additional rooms were found insufficient to admit all the collection, and a great part of the pictures consequently remained in the town house in  
Grosvenor

\* This gentleman was Lord Mayor, alderman, and sheriff of London. His daughter and coheir married Sir Edward Hungerford, and was the person who founded the almshouse above noticed. Halliday is particularly noted in the city annals as the first Lord Mayor who drained and planted Moorfields.

† In Hasted's History and Topographical Survey of the county of Kent, Vol. VII. p. 529, the Smyths of Osterhanger in that county are said to have been originally of Corsham in Wilts, and in Wood's MSS., in the Ashmolean Museum, two persons of that family are styled of Corsham; but whether they were proprietors of the lordship, or only residents within the same, does not appear.





Grosvenor Street. To concentrate the whole at Corsham was long in the contemplation of the late owner; but the execution of his purpose was prevented by death. His son, the present proprietor, however, having entered into the same view was no sooner in possession of the estate than he determined to carry it into effect. With this intention he engaged two professional gentlemen, John Nash, Esq. and Humphrey Repton, Esq. the former to enlarge and improve the house, and the latter to embellish and adorn the surrounding scenery and pleasure grounds. These objects have accordingly been completed. The following account of the alterations and additions made to the house at this period is given in "an Historical Account of Corsham House." It is succinct, and defines the character of the mansion in its previous state.

"The middle of the house on the south side was occupied by a hall, staircase, drawing room, eating room, and a narrow passage, all of which were small and very low. These have been laid together and formed into one hall, the ceilings taken away, and an open gallery made all round, with a staircase at both ends, leading by double flights of steps, on each side, to the galleries. This room, which is fitted up as an old baronial hall, is 110 feet in length, including the staircase, 25 broad, and 25 feet high. The west wing of the house had a square library, two smaller rooms and a staircase. The latter, and the two rooms have been thrown together, and converted into a library, forty-five feet long, and twenty-two feet wide. The square apartment is now made a breakfast room, and is remarkable for a very singular cornice, which is composed of small heads in basso relievo supporting the points of groins. Though there are 160 in number, yet they are so varied that not any two are alike; and though every head is expressive of bearing weight, yet each countenance expresses it in a different way. The additional new rooms are on the north side of the house, and consist of a saloon, an eating room, and a music room. The two latter are of the same proportions, measuring 36 feet by 24 feet, and 18 feet high. The saloon

saloon in the middle is of an octagonal shape 40 feet diameter, and 24 feet high. It commands a beautiful view of the lawn and water. These three rooms are en-suite, and communicate with the grand picture gallery, hall, and passage. In designing the centre of the new north front, the architect has judiciously chosen for his model the east end of Henry the Seventh's chapel at Westminster, the character of which is peculiarly light and beautiful. Its form and component parts are admirably adapted to this situation; for by projecting before the regular surface of the building, and having windows in the three outer faces it thereby gives to the saloon a variety and extent of prospect singularly advantageous. The turrets and flying buttresses are also beautiful appendages, and by catching the rays of the sun when in the east or west, are calculated to illumine the gloom of a northern aspect." \*

Corsham House is open for public inspection two days in the week, Tuesday and Friday, when every respectable person is admitted. The apartments successively shewn are the grand hall, state dressing room, the state bed chamber, the cabinet room, the picture gallery, the music room, the saloon, or drawing room, and the dining room. These contain all the principal pictures in the Methuen collection, among which the following particularly claim the admiration of artists and dilettanti.

The Corinthian, *Eudamidas* making his will; a fine sketch. *N. Poussin*. This picture records an instance of pure and disinterested friendship. Eudamidas, dying in indigent circumstances appointed his two friends Aretæus and Charixenus his executors; bequeathing to the former, the care and provision of his aged mother; to the latter the portioning of this marriageable daughter enjoining, should either friend die, the survivor should discharge

\* The small volume from which this is extracted contains a plan and view of the house, a complete catalogue of the pictures, with short accounts of the principal, an account of the different schools of painting, an essay on the progressive state of the fine arts in England, and Biographical Anecdotes of the Artists;—12mo. 1808, 4s.

charge the whole trust. The friends accepted the charge, Charixenus died, and Aretæus scrupulously fulfilled his duty.

An emblematical picture representing a Guardian Angel conveying an infant female to heaven; by *C. Dolci*.

Portrait of Hernando, or Ferdinando Cortez: *Titian*.

This adventurer became famous during the reign of the Emperor Charles V. for effecting the conquest of Mexico, and died in 1554, aged sixty-three.

A landscape representing the dawn of morning: *Claude*.

A print has been engraved from this picture, by Peake for Boydell, as has also another from the following:

A landscape, called Evening, ——— *Claude*.

The Nativity: by *Tintoretto*.

This is a long, narrow painting, divided into three compartments, and making three separate pictures. In the lower group (behind which are cattle) some females appear, looking up towards the second group, which consists of the Virgin and Child. Shepherds, &c. above whom are angels bending over the infant Saviour.

The Virgin and Child in the clouds: *Murillo*.

Judith going out of the city to Holofernes's Tent: *Paul Veronese*.

An emblematical picture representing the virtues and duties belonging to a good Christian: *Titian*. In this allegorical painting the artist has represented the Virgin with the infant Saviour in her lap, St. Peter kneeling and kissing his feet; denoting the submission of the church to Christ. St. John is pointing to the lamb: expressive of meekness and humility; and to these are introduced the cardinal virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity: the latter having the care of her two children. The figures of the Virgin and Charity are clothed in red drapery.

A half length portrait of a Turk, by *Rembrandt*, is a fine specimen of this great master: in richness of colouring, forcible contrast of light and shade, and dignity of character, this head ranks among his best productions.

Our Saviour at the Pharisee's house, and Mary Magdalen anointing his feet, by *Carlo Dolci*, of whom it has been remarked, that he never painted another picture so large, and that this was executed after a drawing by Ludovico Cigoli. The gentleman for whom it was painted, directed that his own portrait should be represented in the character of a servant waiting at the table; the artist complied and thereby sacrificed character, connexion, and propriety.

A Magdalen meditating on a skull, by *Titian*.

Martyrdom of the Innocents, by *Vandyck*.

In representing this most inhuman and barbarous event the painter has portrayed a number of mothers and children with their savage murderers in different groups. The forcible action and agonized expression of the distracted parents cannot fail to affect the mind of the spectator, and the most poignant indignation is excited towards the brutal monster who issued the horrid decree. Though attributed to Vandyck, it appears rather to be a fine copy from Rubens

Baptism of our Saviour, accompanied by angels, by *Guido*.

This picture consists of five figures; Our Saviour, St. John, and three Angels. The countenance of the former is expressive of devotion and calmness, his body gently bending with his hands folded. St. John bears a cross in his left hand, and with his right pours the baptismal-water. In the clouds is an emblematical figure of the Holy Ghost.

Landscape, by *S. Rosa*.

A confined rocky scene, in the centre of which is an opening with water falling over broken fragments of stone. Near the foreground is a banditti, of four figures well grouped and coloured.

Rubens and Family, with horses, dogs, foxes, wolves, &c.; by *Rubens*. The artist with his wife and another person are on horses, which, with the figures, are well drawn and richly coloured. On the left side of the picture are men with spears, and others blowing horns. In the centre are some dogs, foxes, and  
wolves

wolves in different positions. It is said that the dogs, foxes, &c. were painted by Snyders.

Our Saviour betrayed by Judas; *Vandyck*.

This picture was painted by Vandyck for his master, Rubens. The subject represents the time when Christ was betrayed into the hands of the soldiers, who are binding him with cords.

The Angel conducting Tobias to Media: *M. Angelo*. Three quarter figures. Breadth of light, clearness of colouring, strength of effect, with great expression, are the characteristics of this picture. The angel is robed in blue drapery, and leading Tobias by the hand.

Venus dressing, and Cupid holding her looking-glass; *P. Veronese*.

Charity and her three children; *Vandyck*. Of this picture the Marquis of Stafford has a duplicate.

David and Abigail; *Rubens*.

This exquisitely painted and finely composed picture is deservedly admired by every discriminating connoisseur, and may justly be classed with the finest productions of this great master.

Portrait of Thomas Killegrew; *Dobson*.

Killegrew was page of honour to Charles I. and was appointed gentleman of the royal bed-chamber to Charles II. He is commonly called that Monarch's jester; and as his situation gave him peculiar privileges of speech, he frequently exercised them in reproving his royal master's licentious conduct. He wrote eleven plays, died in 1682, and was interred in Westminster Abbey church.

Portrait of the famous satirist, Berni, by *Giorgione*.

Portrait of Cosmo, the last Duke of Florence, by *Subtermans*.

The Crucifixion: *Tintoretto*.

Sir Charles Baromeus visiting the sick during the time of a plague at Milan: *Giacinto Brandi*.

Sketch in two colours, of Augustine in an extacy, contemplat-



ing the mystery of the Holy Trinity and the incarnation of our Saviour, by *Vandyck*. A highly finished sketch of the finest picture he ever painted. The latter was in the church of St. Augustine at Antwerp, but is now in the Louvre at Paris.

The Last Supper, by *Tintoretto*. This richly coloured picture, possesses considerable breadth of composition, and the attitude of the figures is appropriate and interesting.

The Battle of Eckerbert, by *Strada*.

This celebrated conflict was fought near Antwerp, by forty Spanish officers on a side, of whom only two remained alive.

St. Lawrence on the Gridiron : *S. Rosa*.

Henry the Seventh's three children, by *Mabuse*.

*Arthur*, Prince of Wales : *Henry*, about three years old, who was afterwards crowned Henry VIII. ; and *Margaret*, who married the King of Scotland. Walpole mentions this picture in his "Anecdotes of Painters," and another of the same subject in Windsor Castle.

A Portrait of *Vandyck*, painted by himself.

Portrait of Pope Innocent the Tenth, by *Velasquez*.

Portrait of Andrea Vesaleas, a famous physician, by *Tintoretto*.

Half length of Ann Carr, Countess of Bedford, by *Vandyck*.

A print has been engraved from this picture. The countess has a rose in her bosom, and is pulling on a glove.

Our Saviour breaking bread, by *Car. Dolci*.

Baptism of Queen Candace's Eunuch, by St. Philip, by *John Both*. This has been engraved by Browne, and published by Boydell. Though Both was a native of Utrecht, yet from the general grandeur of his compositions he obtained the appellation of "*Both of Italy*," and this picture certainly entitles him to that complimentary term.

Omphale the mistress of Hercules, by *A. Caracci* ; is a picture of very considerable merit. Omphale is represented naked with

the club, lion's skin, &c. denoting the conquest of love over strength.

Landscape with figures.—Storm. *N. Poussin.*

The Deity with several Angels in the Clouds. *F. Albano.*

This picture belonged to Pope Innocent the Tenth, as may be seen by his coat of arms on the back. The frame (of silver) was made by the celebrated statuary Alessandro Algardi.

Sir Francis Xavire dying on the coast of China, *C. Maratti.*

A full length portrait of James Stuart, Duke of Richmond and Lenox, by *Vandyck.*

James, son of Esme Stuart, Duke of Richmond, was nearly allied to Charles I. and much and deservedly in his esteem. He had the sincerest affection for the king, his master, and was one of the noblemen who offered to suffer in his stead. He died 30th March 1655. See Granger's Biographical History.

Houbraken engraved this among his illustrious Characters, 1740. A three quarter portrait of this nobleman, by Geldorp is at Gorhambury, Herts. Earlom engraved a print from the present picture for Boydell.

Head of Lord Bernard Stuart, afterwards Earl of Litchfield, by *Vandyck.*

This nobleman was the youngest of five sons of the Duke of Richmond and Lenox; and following the example of his noble father, commanded a troop in the cause of his sovereign. In consequence of his gallant behaviour, near Litchfield, he was created an earl. He was killed at the battle of Rowton Heath, near Chester, when pushing forward to rescue the king. Vertue engraved his portrait.

Margaret, Countess of Richmond and Derby, mother of Henry VII.; *Mabusc.*

Margaret was daughter and heir of John Beaufort, Duke of Somerset, and was eminent for her public benefactions. She completed the foundation of Christ College, Cambridge, and established a perpetual lectureship at the same University, and an-

other at Oxford: she also endowed the grammar-school at Wimbourne, in the county of Dorset.

A portrait of Sir Brian Tuke, by *Holbein*.

He was treasurer of the Chambers to Henry VIII.

Sir Peter Lely and family in a musical concert: *Sir Peter Lely*. This an early picture of Sir Peter's, and is particularly described by Granger.

Portrait of Sir Charles Lucas, by *Dobson*.

This active officer was shot, with Sir George Lisle at Colchester, in Essex, for defending the castle there against the Parliamentary army under Fairfax.

In concluding our account of Corsham House and its noble collection of pictures, it seems proper to give some account of the family to which it belongs, and of the person to whom it owes its present celebrity.

Sir Robert Douglass, in his Baronage of Scotland, informs us that the *Methuen family* derived their origin from a person of distinction who accompanied Edgar Atheling from Hungary to England, and thence into Scotland, when he escaped thither to secure himself against the supposed treacherous designs of the Conqueror. Malcolm Caumore, who then held the Scottish sceptre, having married Margaret, the sister of Edgar, received the prince's friend with great favour, and conferred upon him the barony of Methuen in Perthshire, whence his descendants assumed their surname. In different reigns they appear from documents in the herald's office to have been invested with important official situations in that kingdom. At length one of them, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, came into England, and from him the Wiltshire Methuens are lineally descended. How early they fixed their seat in that county is uncertain, but John Methuen, Esq. was one of the representatives in Parliament for the borough of Devizes from the year 1690 to 1702 inclusive. He was likewise chancellor of Ireland, and ambassador to the Court of Portugal, where he died in 1706. His son, Sir PAUL

METHUEN,

**METHUEN**, may be ranked among the most distinguished characters of his age. He was born in 1672, and was, at various times ambassador to the courts of Vienna, Morocco, Lisbon, Madrid, and Sardinia, and likewise filled several of the first offices in administration. In 1725 the king created him a knight of the Bath. Voltaire, who mentions him in his "Age of Louis the 14th," characterizes him as one of the best ministers the English ever employed in any embassy. Sir Richard Steele, in his dedication to him of the Seventh Volume of the Spectator, also passes a high eulogium on his merits, not only as a statesman, but as a man of taste, and a patron of literature and the fine arts. Of his predilection for painting, and of his judgment in works of art, his valuable collection of pictures above described is sufficient testimony. His knowledge of foreign languages, and of the best authors in each is said to have been very extensive and profound. Sir Paul never married, assigning as a reason for his celibacy, that the blessing of wedlock was too great for him to enjoy. When at Lisbon, in his youth, he rode to Madrid, and fought a duel with a gentleman who had behaved unhandsomely to a lady of his acquaintance. Another chivalrous action is recorded of him on his next visit to Portugal in the character of ambassador. Having arrived safely in the Tagus, Sir Paul had equipped himself in his court apparel, and was on the point of going on shore to attend the king, when a French ship of war entered the mouth of the river. Sir George Rooke, who commanded the ship which had conveyed the ambassador from England, manifested a wish to attack the enemy, and Sir Paul insisted upon accompanying him, and paying his respects to the French Captain in preference to the Portuguese monarch. An engagement ensued, which was long and warmly contested, but British valour at length prevailed, and the enemy struck his colours at the moment of boarding. Sir Paul, in his anxiety to be first on deck sprung forward so precipitately, that he fell into the water between the vessels, and

\* was with difficulty rescued from a watery grave. Sir Paul died April 11, 1757, and was buried close to his father in Westminster Abbey-church.

## CHIPPENHAM

is a large borough and market town, situated on the great road from London to Bath, at the distance of ninety-three miles west from the former, and fourteen miles east from the latter city. This town is certainly of great antiquity, and seems to have been a place of considerable importance in the time of the Saxons, as it is uniformly characterized by the most ancient writers as a *Villa Regia*.\* Some of the West Saxon monarchs are even said to have made it their seat of government; but this statement we apprehend to be extremely doubtful though it is not improbable that they had a palace, or country seat here, or in the immediate vicinity. King Ethelwulf certainly resided at Chippenham some time on his return from an expedition against the Welsh in 853, as all authors who mention the subject agree in affirming that the nuptials of his daughter, Athelswitha with Buthred, King of Mercia, were celebrated in this town †. In the reign of Alfred, the Danes occupied Chippenham as their head quarters more than once, and particularly during the concealment of that monarch in the Forest of Selwood ‡. From this place they marched to Ethandune, where they ascertained that Alfred had quitted his fastnesses, and was advancing to attack them §. In Chippenham also they were quartered for some weeks

\* Leland's Collectanea, Vol. III. p. 180, etiam, p. 216. et p. 280, ex diversis Chronicis.

† Chronicon. Saxon. Leland Collect. ex Chronicon Mariani Scotti. Vol. III. 276.

‡ Hen. Huntingdon. Rer. Angl. Script. Post. Bedam, p. 350. Vita Alfredi, Spelman, p. 25, 26.

§ Chronicon Ethelwerdi.

weeks at the time of negotiating a treaty between Alfred and Gurthrum; and we are informed that the latter *left this town for Cirencester* immediately after they had received the sacrament of Baptism at Aulre \*. This fact furnishes an additional argument for the opinion that the entrenchment to which the Danes fled after the battle of Æthandune was situated in the vicinity of Chippenham, and not at Bratton.

Alfred at his death is said to have bequeathed the lordship of this town and its palace to his youngest daughter Elfreda, who had married Baldwin, Earl of Flanders. How long the palace stood after this period cannot be ascertained; but we learn from Domesday-Book that Edward the Confessor held the lordship, and that it continued attached to the Crown after the Conquest †. In the time of Richard II. it was the property of the Hungerford family. On the execution of Lord Hastings, to whom it passed

\* "The accord being fully made and finished, the Danes rise from Chippenham, and leisurely enough remove they come to Cirencester in Gloucestershire." Spelman's *Life of Alfred*, 1709, Oxford Edit. 8vo. p. 70. Turner's *History of the Anglo-Saxons*, Vol. I. p. 265.

† "The king holds Chepeham. King Edward held it. It was neither assessed nor hid. Here are 100 ploughlands; 16 of which with 28 servants are in demesne. Forty-eight villagers, and 45 borders, and 20 cottagers, and 23 hogkeepers occupy 66 ploughlands. Here are 12 mills of the value of 6 pounds, and 100 acres of meadow. The wood is six miles square. The pasture is 3 miles long, and a mile and a half broad. This manor with its appendages provides one night's entertainment for the king with all usual customs, and is valued at 110 pounds by tale. Bishop Osbern holds the church of this manor with two hides, from the time of the Confessor. One of these hides is Thaneland, and the other belongs to the church. The whole is worth 55 shillings. A certain land which King Edward gave to Ulviet his huntsman, and was part of his demesne, belongs to this manor. This manor is now the king's, and is reckoned at 1 hide. It consists of 2 ploughlands, and 3 servants, 4 villagers, and 4 cottagers occupy 1 of them. The pasture is half a mile long, and a furlong broad. It is worth 3 pounds. There is half a yardland belonging to this manor, which was formerly thaneland. Ectricus held it T. R. E." Wyndham's *Domesday Book*, Wiltshire, p. 26.

passed by marriage \*, it was forfeited to the king, and was among the manors given by Richard III. to John Howard, Duke of Norfolk. Henry VII. however, restored it to the Hungerfords.

Previous to the reign of Queen Mary Chippenham was a borough by prescription; but that princess incorporated it by charter in the first year of her reign. This deed having been surrendered in 1684, into the hands of Charles II., a new charter was granted by his successor, in which nearly the same privileges were conferred as in the former one †. Under that charter the town is now governed by a bailiff and twelve burgesses. The former is vested with the powers of a justice of the peace, and holds a court every six weeks for the recovery of small debts. Here are also held the petty sessions for Calne and Chippenham division of the hundred. The market is on Saturday, weekly, and there are fairs on the 17th of May, 22d of June, 29th of October, and the 11th of December.

Chippenham sends two members to Parliament, which it originally did as early as the time of Edward I. In the reign of his successor, however, it availed itself of this privilege only twice, and in that of Edward III. four times. It then intermitted sending till the 2d year of Richard II., and after the 12th year of the same king, till the first year of Henry VI. From that period  
its

\* Vide ante, p. 486.

† By that charter it was ordained "that the village, town, and borough, of Chippenham should be a free borough corporate in deed, fact, and name, for ever of one bailiff and twelve burgesses." It then states the limits of the borough, the names of the burgesses, manner of appointing them, &c.; and for keeping in reparation the bridge and causeway; gives to the bailiff and burgesses several parcels of land, the names and extent of which are specified and named the borough lands, viz. all that field called Englands, containing by estimation 17 acres, and all the meadow of Westmead, containing 30 acres; and all one messuage and appurtenances called Pokes, in Rowdon-Down, containing 120 acres; and one close of land called Bur-Lease, 4 acres; and 21 acres lying in the common fields, and one wood called Rowdon-Down Coppice, containing by estimation 21 acres; and the field called Bolt's Croft, &c.

its returns have been regular and constant. The bailiff is the returning officer; and the number of voters is estimated at one hundred and forty, being the burgesses and the free men, occupying burgage houses. The interest of the borough was long divided between the corporation and the clothiers, each returning one member by the tacit consent of the other. This negative harmony, the consequence of previous strong, and nearly balanced contentions\*, however, was overthrown during the election in 1802; and two new parties composed of the heterogeneous elements of the old ones have sprung up from their ruins. A cloathing interest is now out of the question, for the clothiers having split, one half of them at present support what is called the *Independent Interest*, and the other half adhere to what they denominate the *Old Interest*.†

#### Chippenham

\* The decision of a contested election in this borough was the immediate cause of the resignation of Sir Robert Walpole, as minister, in the year 1741. The fact is thus noticed by Mr. Coxe. "At length on the 28th the opposition finally triumphed. A question on the Chippenham election was carried against the minister, by a majority of one, 237 against 236, and the party gained so considerable an accession by the desertion, or absence of several members of the court party, that the final decision of the Chippenham election was carried against the minister by a majority of 16. 241 to 225. Walpole seems to have anticipated this event, and met it with his usual fortitude and cheerfulness. While the tellers were performing their office he beckoned Sir Edward Baynton, the member whose return was supported by opposition, to sit near him, spoke to him with great complacency, animadverted on the ingratitude of several individuals who were voting against him, on whom he had conferred great favours, and declared he should never again sit in that house." *Memoirs of the Life and Administration of Sir Robert Walpole*, Vol. III. p. 244. 1800, 3 vols. 8vo.

† To enable the reader to understand the meaning of these terms it may be proper to observe that many of the inhabitants of the town had entertained a jealousy that the gentlemen who were the members for the borough, and who had long and quietly possessed the honour of representing it were taking measures to entrench themselves in it, so as to make their return a matter of demand, rather than a matter of favour. This jealousy took its  
rise

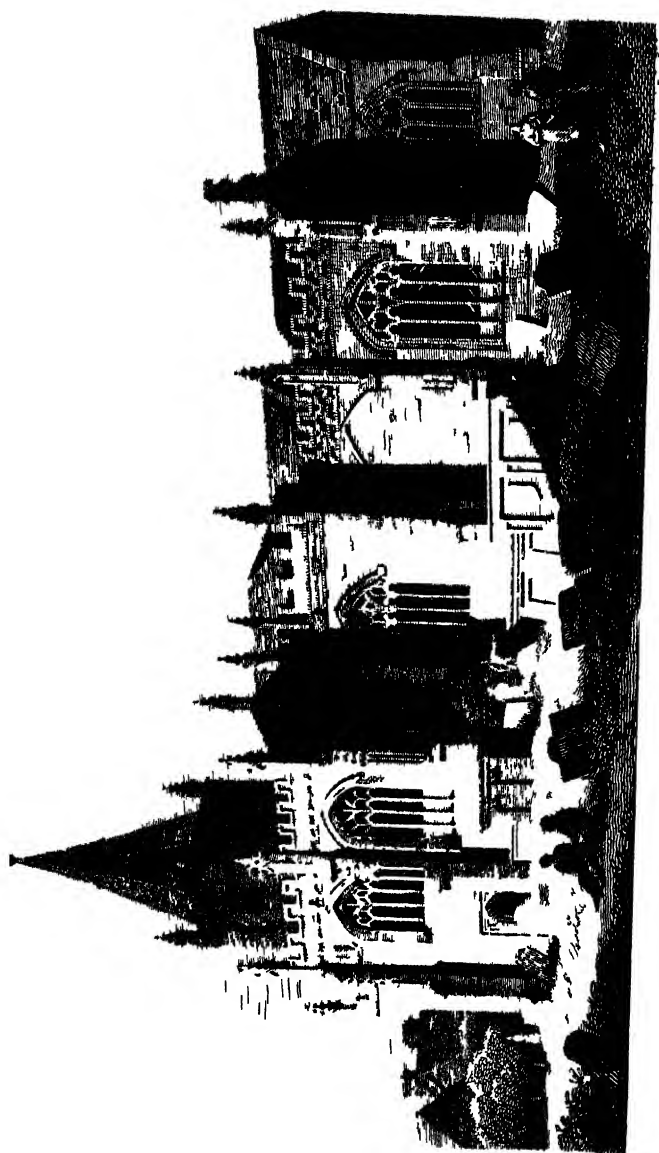


Chippenham is situated in a fine valley, close to the south bank of the river Avon, which makes a bold sweep nearly round the town. It consists principally of one street, above half a mile in length. Near the centre, in an open space, stands the Town-hall, which is almost the meanest looking building in the place, and forms a striking contrast to the respectable appearance of the houses in general. Over the Avon is a handsome freestone bridge of twenty-one arches, which has been greatly widened within the last twenty years, and is ornamented with balustrades and lamps. This bridge is traditionally reported to have been the gift of Queen Elizabeth, who visited Chippenham during one of her progresses through England. This tradition, however, is falsified by the charter granted to the town by her predecessor Queen Mary, which expressly proves that the bridge existed before Elizabeth came to the throne, as lands are appropriated, in that deed, for its repair.

The *Church* of Chippenham is a large, ancient structure, and consists of a nave, south aisle, chancel, and chapel, with a tower and spire at the west end. From the diversity of style in its architecture, this edifice has evidently been erected at different periods. Camden supposes it to have been founded by some of the Hungerfords, as the arms of that family are displayed on various parts of the walls and windows; but this conclusion is erroneous, at least with regard to the body of the church, which is clearly of older date than the period when the Hungerfords became lords of the manor. It is probable, therefore, that it was only enlarged and repaired, under the auspices of that family, and most likely at the same time that the Hungerford chapel was built, and a chantry of one priest founded in it by Walter, Lord Hungerford, in the reign of Henry VI. The tower and spire are certainly of earlier date; and the semi-circular arch  
with

rise, from the number of burgage houses which these gentlemen found means to purchase, and eventually caused a collision between individuals who had before carried their animosity so high as even to injure the happiness and sociability of private society.





with zigzag mouldings, which divides the nave from the chancel, is evidently as old as the twelfth century. The annexed print displays the south side of the church, with the Hungerford chapel, and another chapel, to the east, which has the date of 1620 on the battlements.

The church contains several monumental erections and inscriptions, some of which deserve, to be specified on account of their antiquity and peculiarity. At its south-east angle is a large old altar tomb, inscribed thus :

“ Armger hoc tumulo jacet hic generosus opaco,  
ANDREAS BAYNTON qui nominatus erat ;  
Quem genuit miles bene notis ubique Edwardus  
Hujus erat hæres nunc requiescit humo.  
A. D. 1570.”

“ In this dark tomb lies the worthy squire, named Andrew Baynton ; also the well known knight his son and heir Edward, here lies buried.”

A flat stone on the north side of the church is inscribed to the memory of a Mr. Ely, formerly an attorney in Chippenham.

“ Neare this place lyoth the body of JOHN ELY, Gent. sometimes burgesse of this towne, who died November 25th, 1663.

’Tis well I am stone, for to preserve his name,  
Who was, if mortal may be, without blame ;  
In his religious, civil practice just ;  
In his calling no traytor to his trust.  
If this report consuming time shall weare  
And wipe out—Search Heaven’s records, ’tis there.

There are also the following inscriptions in the chancel :

“ Neare unto this place lieth interred the body of Mr. JOSEPH GLARE, the late vicar of this parish, and his two sons, which said vicar departed this life the 26th day of December 1680.

“ Stars fall, but in the grossness of our sight  
 A good man dying, the world doth lose a light :  
 While we lament our loss, such lights put out,  
 The heavens triumph above, the angels shout.  
 If virtue's self with virtuous man could dye,  
 Reader thou then might say, here it doth lye.”

“ Neare to this place lyeth the body of Mr. ROBERT COCK, vicar of this parish, who by will left for ever the yearly produce of fifty pounds (which was all that he had) for teaching poor girls to read, and instructing them in the knowledge and practice of the Christian religion, as professed and taught in the church of England. He died Oct. 4 Anno Dom. 1724, Etat. 54.—“ Go and do thou likewise. St. Luke 10th C. 37th V.”

But the most curious monument in the church is that of Sir GILBERT PRYN, Knight. It is a mural tomb with two adult figures kneeling at an altar, attended by seven children, two boys and five girls, in the same attitude. Beneath are two brass plates with inscriptions. On one is the following :

“ The memorial of Sir Gibart Pryn, Kt. who married Mary the eldest daughtr. of Jayne Davys, daughtr. to Sr. Wymond Carye, Kt. Lord Warden of the stanneries. Mr. of ye. first fruits office, and Kt. of ye. Bathe. The said Sir Gilbert Pryn having issue by the said Mary his wife seaven children, 2 sonnes and 5 daughtrs. ; five of wch. 2 sonnes and 3 daughtrs. are dead. The other 2 daughtrs., namely, ye eldest of all, Frances, is married to Sr. Frauncys Seimour, Kt. youngest sonne of ye \* \* \* \* Lord, sonne and heire to ye now Erle of Hertford, and ye second daughtr. named Seimour, married to Sr. George Hastings, Kt. second brother to Henry, now Erle Huntingdon.

He was buryed June 2d, 1627.

She \* \* \* \* January 29th, 1628.

Monument was erected in 1620.”

On the other brass is pourtrayed, at the top, figures of a man  
 and

and woman, holding in their hands a branch from a tree, which stands in the centre between them, and as we presume, is intended to represent the tree of life. Beneath are these lines :

ECHE MAN'S A PLANT AND EVERY TREE  
LIKE MAN IS SUBJECT TO MORTALITIE.

A row of broken branches intervenes betwixt the above and the next lines.

THESE BRAVNCHES DEAD AND FALEN AWAY ARE GONE.  
FROM VS VNTILL THE RESVERECTION.

These are succeeded by a representation of four figures of men and women in pairs, each with the trunk of a tree between them, and holding branches which appear to sprout from it. At their feet are these two lines :

THESE GRAFTED THUS BY WEDLOCK'S SACRED DOME,  
(GOD GRAVNT) MAY FLOURISHE TILL THOSE OTHER COME.

Besides the established church, there are several buildings in this town, appropriated to the public worship of dissenters of various denominations. Of these the most conspicuous at present are the Wesleyan, or Arminian Methodists, and the Baptists. The Calvinistic, or Independent Methodists, formerly the most numerous sect in the town, are now comparatively few in number. Such has been the violence of the election furor here, that even the religious sentiments of the people have been materially influenced and almost new modelled by its operation.

The chief public institution in Chippenham is a *Charity School* for the education of poor boys in reading, writing, and arithmetic. Many liberal donations and bequests, however, have been made at different times to the parish for the benefit of the poor. Most of these are recorded on boards hung up in the church, and among others, the following names appear as benefactors :

factors: *Thomas Ray, Sir Francis Popham, Robert Gale, Henry Smith, Gabriel Goldney, Mrs. Hawkins, — Woodroffe, Robert Cook, Sir Edward Baynton, and Sir Thomas Fludyer.* \*

Chippenham does not appear to have been the site of any establishment of the monastic order, either before or after the Conquest. Of its Saxon antiquity not a trace remains, excepting the slight historical notices before mentioned. There was however, about twenty years ago an old house standing close to the Angel Inn, which, from time immemorial had been denominated the *palace*, and was supposed to have constituted a part of the residence bequeathed by Alfred to his daughter; but its massive walls, and heavy pointed arch indicated to the intelligent antiquary a much later construction than the Saxon period. We conjecture therefore that it was built in Norman times on the site which the palace occupied, and hence retained the distinctive appellation of the original building.

According to the Parliamentary returns of 1811, the borough and parish of Chippenham contained 705 houses, and 3410 inhabitants. The staple produce of this town, as at Bradford, is woollens, principally fine broad cloths and kerseymers. It derives also considerable advantage from its situation on the most frequented thoroughfare between Bath and London.

DR. JOHN SCOTT, a learned divine and writer of the seventeenth

\* The two last mentioned gentlemen who were members for the borough in 1769, on the occasion of their election, invested the sum of 1000*l.* in the three per cent. bank annuities, the interest of which they directed to be applied from time to time towards the support and maintenance of such freemen of the said borough, or the widows of freemen living in free houses, in manner and form as the trustees for the time should think proper. For an ample account of these benefactions see Britton's *Beauties of Wiltshire*, Vol. II. In alluding to the charitable bequests to this town, it is but justice to remark, that these have lately been carefully inquired into, and made known by R. H. Gaby, and R. Sadler, Esqrs. whilst those worthy gentlemen held the office of overseers, &c. As the benevolent founder of a charity is entitled to encomium so is he who guards its funds from misapplication.

teenth century, was a native of Chippenham. He was the son of a grazier, and born in the year 1638. Not having been originally intended for a learned profession, he served an apprenticeship of three years in London; at the conclusion of which his natural propensity for knowledge induced him to abandon his trade, and enter as a commoner of New-Inn-Hall, Oxford. On quitting the University, he entered into holy orders, and obtained the chaplainship of St. Thomas, Southwark, and the curacy of Trinity Church, in the Minories, London. These he held till the year 1677, when he was presented to the rectory of St. Peter le Poor, in Broad Street, by the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's. About the same time he obtained the lectureship of one of the churches in Lombard Street. In 1684, he was collated to a prebendal stall in the church of St. Paul, and obtained the degrees of bachelor and doctor in divinity. He was a strenuous opponent to the progress of Catholicism in the reign of James II. and consequently gave all the support in his power to the principles of the Revolution, which placed William and Mary on the English throne. In 1691, he was rewarded for his exertions, by a presentation to the rectory of St. Giles in the Fields, which was then of very considerable value; and in the patronage of the Crown. He died March 10th, 1694-5, and was buried in the rector's vault of his own church.

Dr. Scott sustained a high character for ability and piety. His sermons are characterized, by his biographers, as replete with solid moral instruction, and comprehensive views of doctrinal questions. Two volumes of these were published after his death, and many of them separately. But his principal work was "The Christian Life; from its beginning to its consummation in glory." This production was published in four parts, of which three appeared during his life-time. It was afterwards printed in folio, and in five volumes octavo, and in the latter form has undergone several editions. \*

In noticing the charitable donations and bequests to Chippen-  
 VOL. XV.—April 1814. 2 M ham,

\* British Biography, Vol. VII. p. 100. 8vo. 1773.



ham, we purposely omitted to mention that of MAUD HEATH, because scarcely coming under the denomination of a charity. She caused a paved path, or Causeway, to be formed from Chippenham Clift through the town to Wick-Hill, a distance of four miles. At different parts of this causeway upright stones are erected, each of which bears inscriptions. On one stone at Chippenham-Clift are these lines :

" Hither extendeth Maud Heath's gift,  
For where I stand is Chippenham Clift.  
Erected in 1698, and given in 1474."

On another stone at *Wick-Hill* is this couplet :

" From this Wick-Hill begins the praise,  
Of Maud Heath's gift to these highways."

A third pillar, which is situated at Calloways, is inscribed thus :

" To the memory of the worthy Maud Heath of Langley-Burrel, spinster, who in the year of Grace, 1474, for the good of travellers, did in charity bestow in land and houses about eight pounds a year, for ever, to be laid out on the highway and causey, leading from Wick-Hill to Chippenham Clift.

This pillar was set up by the feoffees in 1698.

Injure me not—

Chippenham Clift ————— Wick Hill

Ridibo tu nunquam		Dum tempus habemus		volat tempus.
		Operemus bonum		

In the vicinity of Chippenham are two mineral Springs, over one of which a small freestone building was erected some considerable time ago, by a Welsh judge. For several years this spring obtained a high degree of celebrity, but is now seldom visited by the rich and fashionable. The efficacy of its waters, however,

however, in the restoration of health, is attested by the experience of many of the poorer class of people, who continue to drink it. Its qualities are chalybeate.

On the west side of Chippenham is a large and respectable mansion, called *Ivy-House*, the seat and property of Matthew Humphreys, Esq. principal magistrate for this district of the county.

CHIPPENHAM in ancient times gave name to an extensive FOREST, which is supposed to have been attached to the Saxon palace already mentioned. It afterwards was conjoined with the forest of Melksham, and was placed for some time in the custody of Matthew Fitz John, governor of the castle of Devizes, in the reign of Edward I. When it was dis-afforested is uncertain.

About a mile to the north of Chippenham is HARNISH, or HARDEN-HUISH, formerly a seat of the family of Colbourne, and now the property of H. Bosanquet, Esq. son-in-law to the celebrated Christopher Anstey, author of the *New Bath Guide*, and of several miscellaneous poems, who died here in 1805; and was buried in Walcot church, Bath. (For some account of this distinguished poet see a new edition of his poetical works published by his son John Anstey, Esq. 1808, 4to.) The church is a handsome modern structure, and contains several monuments, among which is one to the memory of JOHN THORPE, ESQ. M. A. and F. S. A. This gentleman was the son of Dr. John Thorpe, a physician of Rochester, and a local antiquary of considerable note. His son was educated at University College, Oxford, and early evinced a strong predilection for antiquarian research. In 1755, he was elected a member of the society of antiquaries, and in 1769, he published the "*Registrum Roffense*," with the addition of the "*Monumental Inscriptions in the several churches and chapels within the diocese*." Pursuing the same plan he gave the world in 1788, the "*Customale Roffense*, from the original manuscripts in the archives of the Dean and Chapter of Rochester;" to which

were added memorials of that cathedral church, and a variety of documents relative to the ecclesiastical antiquities of the diocese. It was his wish to have executed a similar work for the diocese of Canterbury, but declined it on account of his age, which forbade the hope of his being able to complete it. Mr. Thorpe was likewise author of various miscellaneous papers. He died at Chippenham, August 2, 1792, and was buried at Hardenhuish, in compliance with his own orders in his Will \*.

STANLEY, or STANLEIGH, a small hamlet, about two miles to the south-east of Chippenham, is noted as the site of an ancient *Priory*, of which Tanner gives the following account in his *Notitia*: “Lokeswell, in the forest of Chippenham, was given by Henry, son of the Duke of Normandy, and Earl of Anjou, afterwards King Henry II. to the monks of Quarrer, in the Isle of Wight, upon condition that they should settle there a convent of Cistercians, which they did A. D. 1151; but three years after, that prince, and his mother Maud the Empress, removed the religious from thence to Stanlegh, where they built and endowed, to the honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, an abbey for thirteen white monks, whose revenues were rated, 26th Henry VIII. at 177*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.* *per annum.* Dugd.—222*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* Speed. The site was granted 28 Henry VIII. to Sir Edward Bainton.” Several curious grants were made to this house by different monarchs. One by Henry III. ordained “that their dogs should not be lawed (i. e. have their claws cut off) by officers of the forest.”

The buildings of this priory are now entirely destroyed, having been taken down many years ago for the sake of the stones and other materials, of which they were constructed. Some foundations, extending over a large area, are still distinctly to be traced; and to the south of the present farm-house, are extensive moats and fishponds. These are of very unusual, and extraordinary appearance: for they do not resemble either in  
the

\* Nichols's *Literary Anecdotes*, Vol. III. p. 515.

the depth of the ditches, or forms, the works of the military encampments of the Romans, Saxons, or Danes: nor can we easily assign them to any thing of a monastic nature. Some tessellated pavements are said to have been found here. Among the ruins are still to be seen several fragments of columns, mouldings, and capitals: also a large stone coffin.

On an eminence, south west of this spot, various Roman coins, and other relics have been found at different times.

At **STUDLEY**, a small village to the east of Stauley, is an old family mansion which formerly belonged to the Hungerford family. It afterwards became the property of the Petty family, and was sold by William, Marquis of Lansdowne, to Miss Hungerford, now Mrs. Crewe.

**BREMILL** is a village situated about two miles north-west from Calne. The parish is of considerable extent, and contains 5875 acres of land, and a population of 1303 persons \*. The village, as its name intimates, occupies the summit of an eminence which commands many fine views over the adjacent country. The church is a neat, plain structure, and consists of a nave, chancel, and two side aisles. Against the north wall of the chancel is a large marble monument supporting a bust of the deceased, habited in a large coat and wig, and surrounded by cherubs. Beneath is the following inscription:

“ Juxta sitæ sunt mortales exuvie **GEORGII HUNGERFORD**, Armigeri filii natu maximi Georgii Hungerford de *Cadnam* militis ex domina Francisca filia unica Caroli Sancti Mauri et sorore germana illustrissimi principis Caroli ducis Somersetensis Obiit an. æ. XXIV. April XXIII. An. Dni. MDCXCVIII.

Several stones here also commemorate different clergymen of the parish, as the Rev. *John Wilson*, who died 30th Oct. 1722; *John Townshend*, D. D. prebendary of Highworth in the church of

Sarum, who died May 24, 1687; *Benjamin D'Aranda*, vicar, who died December 27, 1739: *Matthew Frampton*, LL. D. vicar, who died February 20, 1782; and *Nathaniel Hume*, vicar, and many years precentor of Sarum, who died April 28, 1804, aged 72 years. In the church is an old stone *font*, and in the adjoining church-yard is an ancient *stone cross*, with a single shaft. A similar cross is situated near the centre of the village. The living here is an endowed vicarage, having great tithes. It is very valuable, but would have been still much more so but for an Act of Parliament passed in 1775, which fixes the rate of tythe at five shillings per acre. The present incumbent is the *Rev. W. L. Bowles*, the pathetic and eloquent author of "*The Spirit of Discovery*," and of several other poems.\* He was presented by the Archbishop of Canterbury; but the avowson belongs to the Bishop of Salisbury.

### CALNE

is a market and borough town of great antiquity, situated near the centre of the hundred to which it gives name, at the distance of eighty-seven miles west by south from London, and thirty miles north north-east from Salisbury. In the time of the Saxons it was undoubtedly a Royal vill †, and had a *castle* belonging to it, but no traces of that structure now remain. Its existence, however, is commemorated by tradition, and by the circumstance of the spot on which it stood, being denominated *Castle Field* at the present day. Though Calne would unquestionably suffer the fate of the neighbouring towns during the Danish irruptions into this county, it is somewhat remarkable that it is seldom mentioned by the ancient historians, and in no instance

as

\* The fourth volume of his *Poems*, was "written chiefly at Bremhill," and contains a view of the east end of the church, with the cross, &c.

† Leland's *Collectanea*, Vol. I. p. 154. II. p. 84. *Will. Malmesbury Rer. Angl. Post. Bedam, Script. Savile*, p. 61.

as the scene of any great military event. One transaction alone is detailed which can be considered as reflecting historic celebrity on this town. We allude to the synod which was held here in the reign of King Edward the martyr (A. D. 977) with the view of settling the disputes then warmly agitated between the priesthood and the monks, relative to the celibacy of the former, and the right of the latter to hold benefices in the church. This assembly was attended not only by a great concourse of the persons immediately interested in the subject of debate, but also by many of the nobility and knights. Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, presided on this occasion, which was marked by the extraordinary, and to many, fatal incident of the beams of the hall giving way, and precipitating the whole convocation, with the exception of the president into the floor beneath. The crafty monk attributed the event to the interposition of Providence, and blazoned it forth as a signal proof of the Divine vengeance against the regular clergy who had insisted upon the convocation being called. The supposed miracle nevertheless availed him little, for the priests demanded another synod, which was subsequently held at Amesbury: by several historians Dunstan is accused of having treacherously cut the beams of the hall, and caused its fall by design; but a recent author has adduced some very plausible arguments against the probability of his committing so diabolical and nefarious a crime.\*

Calne is conjectured by some writers to have risen on the ruins of a Roman station at Studley, in the vicinity, but this supposition is destroyed by the total absence of all evidence of the actual existence of a colony at that place, for as we have frequently before remarked, the discovery of a few isolated coins on any particular spot infers nothing as to its appropriation. The origin of this town must therefore be referred solely to the Saxons, and most probably to a late period of their dynasty.

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After

\* Vide ante, p. 20. also Lingard's *Antiquities of the Anglo-Saxon Church*, p. 431.

After the Conquest the lordship of it was annexed to the Crown,\* and remained so as late as the reign of Edward I. when it was granted to George, Lord Cantilupe, who left his estates to two daughters, the elder of whom, Millicent, married Ivo, or Eudo de Zouch, and carried the property of Calne into that family. She was succeeded by William, Lord Zouch, her son and heir, whose posterity enjoyed it till the time of Henry VII. who seized upon his estates under the authority of an attainder for having supported the usurper Richard III. It now belongs to the dean and chapter of Salisbury.

Calne is an ancient borough by prescription. The corporation consists of twenty-four capital burgesses, who choose from among themselves two constables, or guild-stewards annually. It returns two members to the national councils, which it originally did in the reign of Edward I. The elective franchise is vested in the burgesses only, by virtue of a decision of the House of Commons in February, 1723 †. The constables are the return-

\* In Domesday-Book, Calne is the first mentioned town among the king's possessions, and is thus described: "The king holds Cauna. King Edward held it, and it was never assessed, and therefore it is not known how many hides it may be worth. But there are 29 ploughlands, 8 of which, and 3 servants are in demesne. Thirty-seven villagers, 78 borderers, and 10 coleberfs occupy the other 21 ploughlands. Forty-five burgesses and 7 mills pay 4 pounds 12 shillings and sixpence. There are 50 acres of meadow, and the pasture is three miles in length, and a mile and a half in breadth. This town provides one night's entertainment for the king's household, with its usual customs. Nigellus holds the church of this manor with six hides of land under the king, where are 5 ploughlands, 2 of which, and six servants are in demesne. Seven villagers, 2 borderers, and 11 cottagers occupy the other three. Here are two mills of twenty shillings, and 25 burgesses, pay 20 shillings. The wood is two furlongs in length, and one furlong and 24 acres broad. The whole is worth 8 pounds. Alured of Spain holds 5 hides, which Nigellus claims. By the testimony of the shire this land belonged to R. E. to the church." Wyndham's Domesday-Book. Wiltshire.

† Previous to that period the right of voting was held to be "in the inhabitants of the borough having a right of common, and being sworn at Ogbourne Court." History of Boroughs, Vol. III. p. 165.

ing officers; and the patron of the borough is the Marquis of Lansdowne.

According to the population returns of 1811, the town and parish of Calne contain 753 houses, and 3547 inhabitants. The staple manufactured produce here is broad cloths and kerseymeres. The market day is Tuesday, weekly, and there are fairs on the sixth of May and the twenty-second of July. A branch of the Wiltshire and Berkshire Canal comes into the town.

Calne within the last twenty years has been greatly improved in the appearance of its houses, and the cleanliness of its streets. It is watered by the small river Marlton, which runs through the centre of the town, and drives several fulling and grist mills. The market-house and town-hall is a commodious building, as is also the free-school, which was founded and endowed under the Will of John Bentley, Esq. of Richmond. His will is dated in 1660, and bequeaths considerable property near Lincoln's Inn, London, for the erection and support of the establishment, in which thirty boys are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic. This number was fixed by the trustees in 1737, and as we are informed, has never been altered; but in consequence of the donation of Sir Francis Bridgman seven of them are taught the Latin and Greek languages, and are otherwise qualified to become exhibitors of Queen's College, Oxford.

The *Church* here is a large and ancient structure. It consists of a nave, chancel, and two side aisles, with a square tower, ninety-three feet high, at the north-east end. Both the tower and the body of the edifice are ornamented with foliated pinnacles rising from the abutments. The nave and aisles are divided by round fluted columns with square decorated capitals supporting semi-circular as well as pointed arches. The roof is of richly carved wood-work; and on the north side of the church is an interior doorway, formed by a pointed arch, with zigzag and nebule mouldings. On the same side are also two monuments, one of which commemorates a member of the ERNLE family, and the other a person named GUALTERUS NORBONNE, who died in



1659. In the church cemetery is a large monument in honour of *Investo Bowsell*, commonly known by the title of the king of the gipsies. The living of this church is a vicarage, with the chapels of Berwick-Basset, and Cherhill annexed. It is in the gift of the treasurer of Salisbury.

The only religious institution in Calne was the *Hospital of St. John*, which was founded previous to the reign of King Henry III. ; but at what period, or by whom, is unknown. It was governed by a master, warden, or prior, and is generally supposed to have been identified with the free chapel of St. John in this town, though some regard the latter as a separate establishment. At the dissolution, 26th Henry VIII. its revenues were valued at 2*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* per annum. A small annual rent was due from the master of this hospital to the Abbess of Lacock, for a tenement and yardlands held by him in Oscote.

In the vicinity of Calne are found many beautiful and curious fossils.

COMPTON-BASSET, a small village situated about two miles to the north-east of Calne, was anciently the lordship of the illustrious family of the Bassets, from whom this and several neighbouring places derived the adjunct part of their names. Having been forfeited to the crown in the reign of Edward III. it was granted by that monarch to his fifth son, Edmund, Earl of Cambridge and Duke of York, from whom it descended to his son Edward, Earl of Rutland, who was slain in the celebrated field of Agincourt. This nobleman leaving no issue his estates devolved to his nephew Richard, Earl of Cambridge.

Adjoining to this village is COMPTON-HOUSE, the seat of Mrs. Heneage, relict of Walter Heneage, Esq. The mansion stands on very lofty ground, and can be seen at a distance of thirty miles. It contains many good rooms, and some valuable drawings and pictures. Among the latter is a fine old portrait of the Countess of Richmond, by Vandyck, and a battle-piece of Burgoyne. The form of this house is an oblong square; its measure-

measurements being 130 feet by 100 feet. It is built chiefly with a soft chalky stone, but its west, or principal front has of late years been renewed with brick. Immediately behind the house is an extensive plantation of wood.

CHERRILL, CHERROL, CHIRIEL, or *Kirriel*, a village to the south of Compton-Basset, and at nearly the same distance from Calne, belonged, in the time of Edward I. to Richard Fitz-John, who dying without children, left his estates to his four sisters, and their heirs. Of these, Maud, the eldest, obtained Cherrill, and conveyed it by marriage to William de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick. On the attainder of Thomas de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, this manor was conferred on John de Beaufort, Marquis of Dorset; but at the settlement of King Henry IV. upon the throne it was restored to his son and heir, Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, commonly called the King Maker, who fell at the battle of Barnet, fighting on the part of King Henry VI. The result of this contest having confirmed the crown to Edward IV. he confiscated the estates of Warwick, and retained them in his own possession, as part of the royal domains. Henry VII., however, on his accession gave the life rent of them to the Countess of Warwick, but secured them in fee to his own successors. Cherrill consequently continues annexed to the crown at the present day; and has been at different times assigned as part of the revenues of the Princes of Wales. It was among the lands assigned to Prince Henry, A. D. 1610.

OLDBOROUGH, or OLDBURY CAMP, or CASTLE, occupies the summit of a hill near Cherrill. Dr. Stukeley regards this entrenchment as a specimen of Roman castrametation, and it may not improbably have been possessed by that people, but we have little doubt of its subsequent occupation by the Danes or Saxons, or both. We have already stated it to be the opinion of several antiquaries, that it was the encampment to which the Danes retired after the battle of Ethandune, and we confess that the more

we consider the subject, the more we incline to favour their conjecture. The form of Oldbury is that of an irregular square rounded at the angles. On two sides, where the acclivities of the hill are steep, the fortifications are slight; but on the other sides it is defended by a double ditch, and bold lofty valla. The only entrance to the arca is on the east. From the circumstance of a deep ditch intersecting this encampment it is reasonably conjectured to have been enlarged at a period subsequent to its original formation.

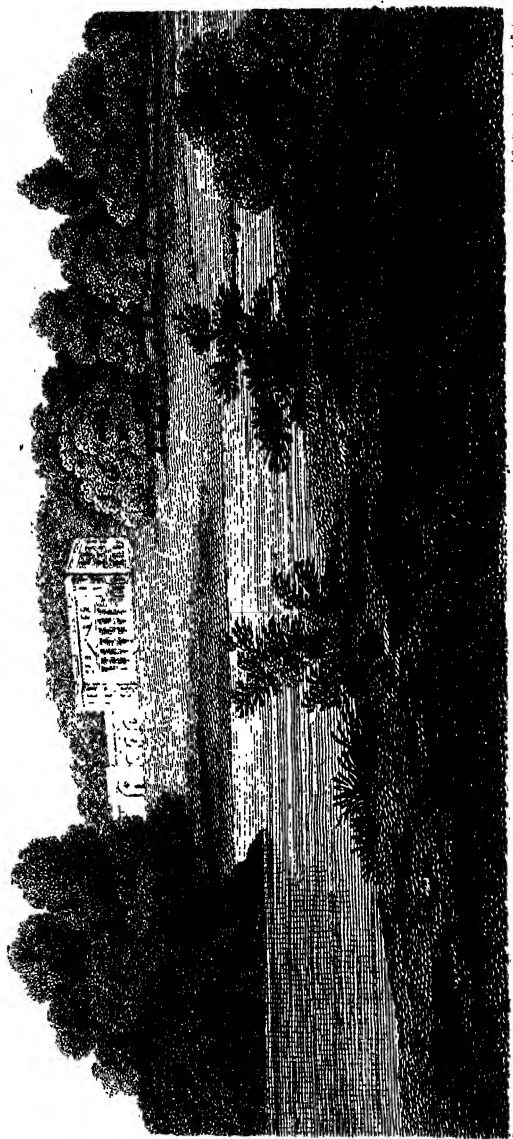
On the slope of the hill on which Oldbury-Camp is placed, is a figure of a *white horse* cut out of the chalk. It is represented in a trotting attitude, and is formed with considerable declination. This figure was executed about thirty years ago in the direction, and at the expence of Dr. Christison, formerly an eminent physician in Calne. From Calne it is visible at the distance of between twenty and thirty miles in different directions.

The village to the south-west of Oldbury-Camp, was formerly the seat of George, Lord Cantilupe, whose sister and co-heiress, by marriage to the family of the Zouches, by whom the estate appears to have been alienated to John, Lord Zouche, at the commencement of the reign of Edward II. This lord obtained a charter of free-warren in all his demesnes, and left them so privileged to his son and heir, John, Lord Wilington.

**BLACKLAND-HOUSE**, the seat of John Merewcather, Esq. is situated between the village of Calston and the town of Calne, at the distance of about three-quarters of a mile from the latter. The present proprietor purchased this seat only a few years ago, from — Maundrell, Esq. whose family had possessed it for a considerable length of time. Both the house and grounds have lately undergone much alteration and improvement. The latter are well wooded, and display no inconsiderable degree of picturesque beauty.

**Black-**





Blackland-House occupies a portion of COMMERFORD, or QUENERFORD-COMMON, which derives its name from a small village situated to the westward. This village is conjectured by Bishop Gibson, and other antiquaries, to be the Kinnersford of Florence of Worcester, at which place a sanguinary battle was fought between the Mercians, under Earl Æthelmund, and the Wiltshire men, commanded by Wickstan, Werstan, or Wurstan, Earl of Wiltshire. Some authors have fixed the scene of this action erroneously at Kempsford, in Gloucestershire, an opinion which is completely overthrown by the positive statement of the Saxon Chronicle, and of all the ancient writers who mention the event, that it happened out of the boundaries of Mercia, in which kingdom Kempsford was included. Gibson says, there were, in his time the remains of a strong entrenchment near Commerford, but no vestiges of any fortification now exist nearer than Oldbury-Castle above-mentioned.

WHETHAM, or WETHAM, situated about three miles to the south-west of Calne, is an ancient seat of the family of Money. The mansion is large and commodious, and the grounds are agreeable.

### BOWOOD,

the seat of Henry, Marquis of Lansdowne, is situated in a fine and luxuriant part of the county, at the distance of two miles north-west of Calne, and four south-east of Chippenham. The park and pleasure-grounds of this demesne, are extensive, greatly diversified in natural features, and richly adorned with plantations.\* Within the boundary of the park are contained nine valleys,

\* The father of the present noble possessor was particularly assiduous in cultivating timber, and enriching the country with picturesque scenery.—During his life Bowood was justly noted and admired for its progressive improvement; but, after his death, it devolved to his eldest son, John, Marquis of Lansdowne, who not only neglected the place, but sold most of the fine timber-trees. Under the tasteful and careful management of the present enlightened nobleman, we may expect to see Bowood both renovated and enhanced in beauty and value.

lies, each of which is characterized by its own peculiar form, feature, and scenery. A grand lake spreads its pellucid waters over a broad and irregular valley ; and, on an elevated piece of ground, is the mansion-house. This consists of three distinct and different features, which have been built at various times ; and hence the whole presents an irregular and diversified mass of architectural parts. The chief, or principal portion, was erected by John, Earl of Shelburne, grandfather of the present possessor, from designs by the Adams's ; and, like the whole of those artists works, has more of the prettiness of a modern Italian villa, than the simply dignified forms and features of a paladian palace. The dining-room and saloon were spacious, and rather noble, apartments ; but the remainder, with the entrance-hall, were comparatively small, and finished with a profusion of little ornaments. With more correct taste, and enlarged mind, the first Marquis extended the buildings by adding a wing, about 300 feet in extent, the elevation of which is in imitation of a wing of Dioclesion's palace at Spalatro. This forms the southern side of two quadrangular courts, which are surrounded by domestic offices. The third portion, to the north of the house, but connected with it, consists of a series of private apartments, contradistinguished from the principal part, which is appropriated to visitors.

The principal front faces the south, and commands a rich and diversified prospect. It is ornamented with a large portico, supported by ten columns of the Doric order, with corresponding entablatures, whence a pediment arises, on which the family arms are sculptured in bold relief. The entrance-hall, or vestibule, which is approached under the portico, is paved with tessellated marble. Many of the apartments are now fitting up in an elegant style ; and some of them are enriched with interesting and valuable pictures and drawings. Among these is a fine landscape, with figures, by *Gainsborough* ; one of his best productions :—A portrait of an Old Man, by *Sebastian del Piombo* :—and other valuable specimens from the pencils of Rubens, Guercino,

eino, Albano, &c.\* Among the pictures is a fine portrait of the celebrated SIR WILLIAM PETTY, the first of his family who attained at once opulence and political consideration.†

The

\* The chief treasures of art and literature, belonging to the Marquis, are preserved in his splendid mansion, Lansdowne-House, London.

† This distinguished character was the son of Anthony Petty, a clothier at Rumsey, in Hampshire, and was born there May 26, 1623. At a very early age, as stated in his will, he evinced a peculiar "genius for mechanics." He acquired the rudiments of education in his native village whence he went to the University of Oxford. Here he obtained a comprehensive knowledge of the Latin, Greek, and French languages, and likewise of those branches of geometry and astronomy most requisite to the practice of navigation, dialling, &c. Thus qualified, he served for some years in the royal navy; but, on the breaking out of the grand rebellion, he quitted the sea, and studied medicine at different universities on the Continent. During this period of his life he became acquainted with the celebrated Hobbes, of Malmshury, whose friendly instructions contributed much to his advancement in philosophy and knowledge. In 1647, returning to England, he procured from the Parliament a patent for his invention of double writing, and began to practice his profession at Oxford. In 1649 he was admitted doctor of physic and deputy-professor of anatomy in that university. About the same time he was elected fellow of Brazen-Nose College; and, in December, 1650, became noted, from being instrumental in the recovery of Ann Green, who had been hanged at Oxford on an unjust charge of child-murder. Soon after this he was chosen a member of the Royal College of Physicians, London; and was also appointed lecturer on music in Gresham College. In 1652 he visited Ireland as physician-general to the army; and, being long resident in Dublin, was constituted clerk to the council, and secretary to Oliver Cromwell, who was styled lord-lieutenant. About two years after his arrival in that kingdom he engaged in his *Political Survey of Ireland*, which obtained him both fame and fortune. This work was composed with the most scrupulous exactness, and was illustrated with several maps. How long he was employed in its execution we are uncertain; but, in 1658, we find him conspicuous and much famed in Richard Cromwell's first and only parliament. On the deposition of the Protector by the Rump Parliament, Petty returned to Ireland, where he remained till the Restoration, when he again came back to England. In 1661 he received the honour of knighthood, and was returned one of the burgesses for Enniscorthy in the county



The park and pleasure-grounds of Bowood are very extensive, and are nearly encircled by a broad belt of plantations; "but this, instead of giving the outline the appearance of formality, rather increases its beauty, from the variety of colours assumed by the trees that compose it, and the different widths they respectively occupy."\* About thirty acres are covered by a translucent and noble lake, which reflects and harmonizes the general features of the landscape. This expanse of water is divided into two branches: one of which retires behind a swell of the lawn; whilst the other runs along for a considerable extent beneath some fine hanging woods, and at length is intercepted from the sight by winding round a mass of interposing trees. The prospect to the south is terminated by Roundaway-hill and a ridge of the Marlborough Downs. At the lower extremity of the lake, and what indeed contributes chiefly to expand it to its present consequence, is a bank, or head of rock, through which the water rushes in several broken streams. Unlike the generality of artificial *cascades*, this possesses a wildness and picturesque effect, which gives it all the appearance of being natural. The overflowing water gushes out of several excavations in the rock; and the principal sheet, after falling a few yards, dashes against some

of Wexford, to the parliament convened at Dublin May 9, in that year — He was one of the first members of the Royal Society; and likewise an original member of the College of Physicians, as incorporated by patent in 1667. Sir William was twice married, and left behind him several children at his death, which happened Dec. 16, 1687, when he was interred in the church of Rumsey.

Besides the Survey above-mentioned, Sir William was author of a treatise on "Political Arithmetic," which shews great depth of capacity, and will be of lasting service to posterity. He was likewise the inventor of various useful mechanical instruments; and suggested many important improvements in natural philosophy. Among his inventions was that of a double-bottomed ship, the model of which is still preserved in the repository of Gresham College.

\* Britton's Beauties of Wiltshire, Vol. II. p. 215, in which is a description of Bowood, as it was in the year 1800.

some projecting and irregular masses of stone. Under the rocks are various subterranean passages, the dark openings of which, joined to the seclusion of the spot, and the noise and burly of the waters, render the scene strikingly pleasing to every man of taste, and more peculiarly to the painter and to the admirer of the picturesque. A vast number of petrifications may be found in these rocks: among which are the *cornua ammonis*, in great variety of sizes and forms. In the plan, distribution, and ornaments of these grounds, the beauties of Nature have been chiefly studied. Here "no inanimate leaden statues, senseless busts, or unmeaning obelisks," obtrude themselves upon the eye to distract the attention, and injure the general impression. The first Marquis of Lansdowne, under whose direction, aided by the advice of Mr. Hamilton, of Pain's-Hill, the grounds were laid out, judiciously observed, "that littleness of workmanship should never be introduced where the beauty and variety of the scenery are in themselves sufficient to excite admiration."\*

The only building in the grounds is a *Mausoleum*, which was erected for himself by John, Earl of Shelburne, and afterwards consecrated to his memory. It stands upon a gentle eminence, deeply embosomed in a thick, solemn wood, and contains a marble monument inscribed thus:

"To the memory of JOHN PETTY, EARL OF SHELBURNE, Viscount Fitz-Maurice, Baron of Dunkerron in Ireland, and one of the Lords of the Privy-Council, Baron Wycomb of Chipping-Wycomb in Great Britain. He was the son of Thomas Fitz-Maurice, Earl of Kerry, to whom the titles of Kerry and Lixnaw had lineally descended through four and twenty generations, and of Anne, the only daughter of Sir William Petty, his Lady, Baroness of Shelburne: a man whom eminent faculties of mind never made ambitious: whom abundant affluence of fortune never made dissolute: whom extensive influence of power never made  
VOL. XV.—May 1814. 2 N arrogant;

\* In these pleasure-grounds is contained almost every species of the oak, and also a great variety of other deciduous and exotic trees.

arrogant; who lived with no other endeavour than to advance the happiness of others by kindness and charity, and improve their sentiments by good example; who died with no wish to be remembered but as a man of worth, and a Christian of sincerity. He departed this life the 10th day of May, 1761, aged 55, leaving two sons, William, now Earl of Shelburne, and Thomas Fitz-Maurice."

Sophia, daughter to John Carteret, late Earl Granville, first wife to William, Marquis of Lansdowne, likewise lies buried in this mausoleum. She died January 5, 1771, aged twenty-five.

Bowood anciently constituted part of the royal and extensive forest of *Pewisham*, which extended from Chippenham nearly to Devizes, and from Lacock to Calne, being bounded on the north and west by the river Avon. In this forest King James I. is said to have frequently amused himself and his courtiers by hunting the deer. After his decease it seems to have been disafforested, and one half of it granted to the ancestors of Lord Audley, and the other to the family of Carey in Devonshire. In the former half Bowood was included. It was also comprised among the other estates seized by the Parliament as forfeited after the establishment of the Commonwealth. It was then laid open, and, as tradition reports, the Parliamentary commissioners wishing to convey the deer over Lockshill-Heath to Spyc-Park, were embarrassed as to the means of effecting their object, till the clothiers of the neighbourhood constructed a skirted road of broad cloth between those places, and thereby accomplished their removal. In the reign of Charles II. this domain was granted to Sir Orlando Bridgman, Bart. of Ridley, son to the lord-keeper of the same name, one of that monarch's favourites, who dying insolvent, it was purchased from his creditors by John, Earl of Shelburne, and Baron Wycomb. That nobleman was succeeded in his honours and estates by his son, William, who was afterwards created Marquis of Lansdowne, whose second son is the present possessor, his elder brother, the second Marquis, having died without issue in 1809, about four years subsequent to his father's decease.

The

The titles of this illustrious peer are, Marquis of Lansdowne, Earl of Wycomb, Viscounts Calne and Calnstone, Lord Wycomb, Baron of Chepping-Wycombe in Great Britain; also Earl of Shelburne, Viscount Fitz-Maurice, and Baron of Dunkerron in Ireland. The father of the present Marquis claims some notice in this place. Of this illustrious and highly eminent political character, and dignified nobleman, it seems requisite to narrate a few facts; for, according to Fuller, he may properly be ranked among the *worthies* of this county.

**WILLIAM PETTY**, Earl of Shelburne, and first *Marquis of Lansdowne*, was born in Dublin in May, 1737. It is presumed that his lordship received the first rudiments of education under a private tutor, as he often regretted the circumstance of not being early placed in a *public* school. During his collegiate studies at Christ Church, Oxford, he was remarkable for regularity of conduct, and strict attention to daily prayers. On leaving the University, being destined for the army, he early obtained a commission in the Guards; and served with the British troops in Germany under Prince Ferdinand. In the battles of Camper and Minden he distinguished himself by the most heroic acts of bravery. Having returned to England at the close of the campaign, he was appointed, in 1760, aid-de-camp to the king, with the rank of colonel; and, in the year following, succeeded to the titles and estates of his father, who had a short time previously been created an English peer, by the title of Baron Wycomb. This event determined him to remain in England and to devote his talents to the service of his country as a statesman and legislator. From the very flattering reception he always met with from his majesty, he was induced to adopt the politics of the court, and, accordingly, supported the ministry with great warmth in the debate respecting the preliminary articles of peace signed at Fontainebleau, Nov. 3, 1762. In 1763 he was appointed first lord commissioner of the Board of Trade and Plantations; but owing, as it is said, to a difference with Lord Holland, he only held that office about five months, when he retired from the court

and the ministry till July 1766; at which period he accepted the office of *principal secretary of state* for the southern department. This situation he held little more than two years, when he resigned along with Lord Chatham. From that time till 1782 he continued in decided opposition to all the measures of government relative to the American war, and took a very active share in the parliamentary debates. At length, on the overthrow of Lord North's administration, and the accession of the Marquis of Rockingham to the premiership, Lord Shelburne was nominated secretary of state for the foreign department; and, on the death of the premier, succeeded him as first lord of the Treasury. Upon this, Fox, Burke, and all the Portland party, seceded; and his lordship finding his own power unable to withstand the strong coalition of North and Fox, resigned early in 1783. When at the close of that year the late illustrious Mr. Pitt drove his successors from the helm, it was expected that the Earl would have been appointed prime minister. He, however, formed no part of the new arrangement, but, as a reward for his various services, was raised to the rank of Marquis, and received the honour of the garter. He then retired from public life; but, on the breaking out of the French Revolution came forward once more, and continued, with all his influence and eloquence, to deprecate our interference in the events of that unparalleled political convulsion, to the period of his death, which happened at Lansdowne-House, London, May 7, 1805.

The public character and abilities of Lord Lansdowne have been variously estimated, according to the political principles of different writers. By some he has been extolled as "the first statesman in Europe;" while others, though they admit him to have been "noted for extent and exactness of intelligence," assert that he was incompetent "for the formation of able and beneficial plans from the result." He was, therefore, says Bisset, alluding to his appointment as premier, "less fitted for the supreme management in so trying and critical a situation, than for some secondary department, in which, from his abundant stores, he  
might

might have supplied materials for the operation of some more energetic and less experienced genius." But whatever may have been the extent of his powers of decision and planning, it is undoubted that he possessed first-rate talents for the conduct of business, as well as powerful and impressive eloquence in debate. If he was unable to decide, on trying occasions, himself, he could reason with great force of argument on the measures of others, and develop their hearings with a truth that seemed to savour of prophecy. He was intimately acquainted with the constitution and laws of his own country; and was likewise minutely versed in foreign politics and foreign courts. It is well known that he kept up a constant correspondence with many of the first political and literary men of his age, in Europe.

The library of Lord Lansdowne was replete with the choicest treasures of foreign and domestic literature: it was also stored with a large, and very choice mass of manuscripts. These were chiefly diplomatic, historical, and political: and, since his lordship's death, have been purchased by the trustees of the British Museum, in which repository they are now preserved. Knowing the importance attached to the Fine Arts, and the dignity they reflect on the discriminating connoisseur, the marquis collected many choice specimens of painting and sculpture: thus Lansdowne-House, in London, and Bowood, were justly regarded as museums of the arts and of literature. In the selection of intimate friends and associates the noble marquis evinced also the judgment of the politician, the philosopher, and the patriot. During the summer months Bowood might be considered as the emporium of talent: as the seat of learning and of science. Here the literati, and politicians of all nations, sects, and classes, associated for the purpose of friendly and intellectual intercourse; to enjoy that truly delectable pleasure, "the feast of reason and the flow of soul." The following remarks are from a private letter of a gentleman fully qualified to speak of the person and place now referred to. "In my frequent visits to Bowood, I had repeated opportunities of conversing with persons of high rank in this as well as in other countries; with men

of learning, and artists of the first eminence: in short with every thing that could conduce to render the table of an English nobleman elegant, polite, easy, and instructive. Politics were seldom the subject of conversation; religion never; though I have often met there not only clergymen of the established church, but Doctors Price, Priestley, Franklin, &c. &c. &c. The only allusion I ever heard from his lordship to the church, was on a remark made by a gentleman, as to the recent death of a bishop:—"Then," replied his lordship "we shall have a *rookery* at *St. James's*."

Among the number of persons to whom the *Letters of Junius* have been attributed, is the Marquis of Lansdowne: but on this point all our sagacious pamphleteers, and political quidnuncs, have failed to produce proofs, or probabilities. The author of these justly admired essays remains, according to his own motto '*Stat nominis umbra*.' His name, connections, private character, and public pursuits, are unknown to the world: but the writer of this article can affirm, and is enabled to prove, that the *secret was not deposited in one breast*, nor is it buried with the author. On this delicate, intricate, and highly interesting subject, he must however forbear to dilate in these pages, but may probably be induced to advance some arguments and develop some facts at a future time and in another place.

On the subject of the private character of the noble Marquis most persons are agreed: "Elevation of mind and gentleness of disposition were so mixed in him, that those who knew him best were most at a loss whether more to admire or to love. Friendship was with Lord Lansdowne a passion: none ever surpassed him in sincerity of attachment; and, in the minutiae of affectionate attention, he never perhaps was equalled. Even they, who by the calls of business, or accidental circumstances, were admitted to his presence, became charmed by the elegance of his manners, and retired with indelible impressions of his affability and benevolence. A great deal, it has been observed, may be traced in its amusements. Those of the Marquis consisted chiefly in the pursuits of architecture

lecture, ornamental gardening, and the encouragement of every polite art. Of every exertion of the human mind he was indeed the liberal patron; and unfriended genius never made a fruitless application to his bounty.”\*

### LACOCK, OR LAYCOCK,

about three miles south of Chippenham, is a large village and parish, seated in a fertile vale on the banks of the river Avon. This place is highly interesting to the topographer and antiquary, from its famous monastic establishment, and buildings, and on account of the eminent persons connected with it at different periods. An ABBEY was founded here in 1232. by *Ela, Countess of Salisbury*, concerning whom, as well as her family, the following particulars may prove interesting :

We find that among other puissant Normans who accompanied William, Duke of Normandy, on his expedition for the conquest of this realm, was Walter de Eureux, Earl of Rosmar; to whom, in consideration of his valour, the Conqueror gave the lordships of Saresburie and Ambresburie. This Earl had a son called Edward, who, in process of time, became sheriff of Wiltshire, and obtained, on assuming the title, the surname of Saresburie. At the period of the general survey he possessed two lordships in Dorsetshire, three in Somersetshire, one in Surrey, two in Hampshire, one in Middlesex, two in Hertfordshire, two in Buckinghamshire, and thirty-three in Wiltshire; out of which county he received in rent, as belonging to his office of sheriff, one hundred and thirty hogs, thirty-two bacons, two bushels and sixteen gallons of wheat, as much barley; . . . bushels and eight gallons of oats; thirty-two gallons of honey, or sixteen shillings; four hundred and forty hens; a thousand and sixty eggs; one hundred cheeses; fifty-two lambs; two hundred fleeces of wool; having likewise one hundred and sixty-two acres of arable land; and, amongst the Reves land to the value of forty pounds per annum.

2 N 4

This

\* Monthly Magazine, June, 1805.—See also Collins's Peerage of England, by Sir Egerton Brydges, and Memoirs of "Public Characters of 1799, 1800."



This Edward left issue a son and heir, Walter, who founded and endowed the priory of Bradenstoke, in Wiltshire, and was buried there in the same grave with his wife. By her he had a son, Patric, who succeeded him, and was afterwards advanced to the title and dignity of Earl of Salisbury.

This Earl Patric, for the welfare of the souls of his father and mother, and for the soul of Maud, his first wife, confirmed the original grants to the canons of Bradenstoke, and gave them all his lands and immunities in Wilcote, in exchange for those in Wyndsford, which had been conferred upon them by his father, and in lieu of the church of Canesford, and chapel of St. Andrew in Cettre. After the death of Maud he married a second wife, called Ela, and was appointed king's lieutenant and captain-general of Aquitain, where he was slain by Guy de Lusignan in the year 1167, upon his return from a pilgrimage, which he had made to St. James in Galicia. This act, perpetrated while he was attending on Queen Alianore, so highly excited the resentment of Henry II. that he expelled the said Guy out of Poitiers, and bestowed his customs in Benai on the church of St. Hillary, in Poitiers, where Earl Patric was buried. This nobleman was succeeded in the earldom of Salisbury by a son, named William, who bore the golden sceptre, with the dove on the head of it, at the coronation of Richard I. He subsequently exercised the office of sheriff of Wiltshire, which he held till the eighth year of King Richard's reign; and was one of the four earls who carried the canopy of state at the king's second coronation. He died the year after, 1196, leaving issue by Alianore de Vi-trei, his wife, an only daughter, who inherited his titles and property, and afterwards became the foundress of Lacock-Abbey. Both he and his lady were buried at Bradenstoke.

Ela's birth-place was Ambresburie, but her Norman relations took her over to Normandy at an early age. It is related, that being so great an heiress, one William Talbot, an Englishman, and an eminent soldier, took upon him the habit of a pilgrim and went into Normandy; where, wandering about for two

months, he at length found her out. He then changed his habit to that of a harper, and having entered the court where she resided, is said to have been well received on account of his mirth and jesting. Afterwards making himself known, he accompanied Ela to England, and presented her to King Richard, by whom she was received very graciously. That monarch gave her in marriage to William, surnamed Longespee; whom at the same time he authorized to assume the titles of Earl of Rosmar and Earl of Salisbury, in right of his wife.

This William Longespee was natural son to Henry II. by the Fair Rosamond, so much celebrated for her beauty and tragical death, and was consequently brother to King Richard I. In 1199, the first year of King John's reign, he was sheriff of Wiltshire, and continued so for some years. About the year 1211, when differences began to take place between the king and many of his barons, he was one of those who espoused the king's cause; and, in 1214, he was again constituted sheriff of Wiltshire, which office he held till his death., in the tenth year of the reign of Henry III. He was a witness to the charter whereby King John resigned his kingdom to Pope Innocent III.; and was afterwards one of the chief commanders of the army which John sent to France to regain the territory seized upon by the French king, during the troubles in England. Whereupon designing to surprise that monarch whilst he was at mass, he was himself made prisoner, with all those who were of his party in the bold attempt: but he soon regained his liberty by exchange for a kinsman of the King of France.

The animosity between King John and his barons had now become very great; and the Pope being favourable to the king, or rather to his own views of temporal aggrandizement, not only confirmed the suspension of Stephen, Archbishop of Canterbury, but excommunicated the nobles. John, elated at this triumph, came to St. Alban's with what forces he had, and after causing the decrees of the Roman Pontiff to be published over all England, raised two armies, one to restrain the Londoners, and another to subjugate

subjugate the northern parts of the realm; and appointed the earl to a chief command in that he left behind.

But in the year following, which was the last of King John's reign, Lewis, son to the King of France, whom the barons had called in to take the government of the kingdom, grew so powerful, that many of the great men, who till then had stood firm to John, went over to Lewis: amongst these Earl Longspee was one of the chief. However, on the death of King John, the scene changed; for the Earl and most of the other barons, forsook Lewis, and did homage to Henry III. Soon after this he went into the holy land with the Earl of Chester; and was at the battle near Damietta where the Christians were worsted. In 1224 Henry III. sent him, with Richard Earl of Cornwall, into Gascoigne, where they besieged the towns and castles of all those who refused homage and fealty to their King. After which, on his return to England, there arose so great a tempest at sea, that, despairing of life, he threw his money and rich apparel over board. The ship, however, providentially escaped shipwreck, and arrived safe, but not till after the report of the earl's being drowned had reached the king. Whereupon Hubert de Burg, then justice of England, intreated the king that he would vouchsafe to grant the wife of this earl to one Raymond, his kinsman, who pretended an hereditary right to the Earldom of Salisbury, so that he might marry her. To which the king consenting, Raymond became immediately her suitor; but after he had used many fair words to win her, she told him with great indignation, that she had recently received letters from her husband, and also messengers, who assured her of his life and safety: and added, that had he really been dead, she could never have suffered him for a husband, as being beneath her. For the sequel of this story, vide ante. p. 132.

Earl Longspee departed this life in 1226, leaving issue by Lady Ela four sons, viz. William, his eldest; secondly, Richard, a canon of Salisbury, buried at Lacock: thirdly, Stephen, who was made seneschal of Gascoigne in 39 Henry III. and afterwards  
justice

justice of Ireland, and Earl of Ulster; his body was buried at Lacock, and his heart at Bradenstoke: and, fourthly, Nicholas, Bishop of Salisbury, whose body lies buried at Salisbury, his heart at Lacock, and his bowels at Ramsbury. See before p. 135. He also left five daughters.

Ela, his widow, survived him many years; and executed the office of sheriff for the county of Wilts in the eleventh year of the reign of Henry III. for three parts of that year. So likewise for 12 Henry III., and the fourth part of 15 Henry III. at which time she gave the king a fine of two hundred marks to have the custody, that is, the sheriffalty of that county, and the castle of Sarum during her whole life.

After seven years of widowhood she resolved on founding some monastery for the health of her soul; as also for the soul of her husband and all her ancestors. At last having a revelation that she should build it in a certain place called Snail's Mede, near Lacock, to the honour of Our Lady and St. Bernard, she laid the foundation of Lacock-Abbey on the morning of the 16th of April, 1232, for nuns of the Augustine order: and, in the afternoon of the same day, she founded a monastery at Hinton in Somersetshire, for Carthusian monks.

It is here to be observed, that these nuns were coheirresses of St. Augustine, and not of the other order of the same saint: the friars whereof are called Eremites of St. Augustine: and this is undeniable, for it is certain that the Eremites of St. Augustine did not come into England till the year 1252; \* consequently there could be no nuns of that order till some years later.

Although it was in 1232 that Ela laid the foundation, and actually began the building of the abbey, yet it was in 1229, that she granted the foundation charter, at the same time endowing the nunnery with the whole of her manor of Lacock, and directing that it should be called the place of the Blessed Mary—*quam volo nominari locum beatæ Mariæ*. This charter was confirmed by King Henry III.

\* Vide Steven's Monasticon. Supplement, Vol. II.

In 1238, Ela took the habit of a nun at the abbey; and two years afterwards, being then fifty-three years of age, she was elected abbess: which situation she held for nearly eighteen years; when finding herself too feeble to superintend the management of the abbey according to her wishes, she resigned her rank. She died about four or five years afterwards, and was buried in the of the church of the abbey.

The abbess of Lacock and her nuns enjoyed many rights and immunities, as is manifest from the numerous charters in their favour; of which the substance is given by Stevens. Among these immunities were the privileges granted by Henry III. of holding a market in the village on Tuesday weekly, and an annual fair for three days, in July. They also possessed considerable landed property conferred upon them by their foundress and other benefactors, of whom the chief were Robert, Bishop of Salisbury, and Amicia, Countess of Devonshire. Among others, they possessed the manor and advowson of Lacock, the manor of Hetherop, the manor of Bissopstre (Bishopstrow) the manor of Shorwell, in the Isle of Wight, half the manor of Hedrington, and the advowson of the churches of Trowbridge, Winterbourn, and Syreveton. They had farther a cart load of dead wood every week out of the forest of Melksham, which was afterwards commuted for forty acres of woodland in the said forest on condition that they should enclose the same so as to hinder the wild beasts from (as it is expressed) entering.

By a clause in the Act of Parliament which gave the lesser monasteries to the king, he was also empowered to continue such as he thought proper. In consequence of which he reconfirmed that of Lacock, with twenty-nine others. But two years after, an act took place for the general abolition of all monasteries, and for vesting them in the crown. At that period Lacock Abbey was occupied by eighteen religious persons, but the number was probably greater in the earlier ages of monastic institutions. In the valuation made at the same time its endowments yielded a yearly revenue of 16*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* according to Dugdale, but Speed  
mounts

mounts it as high as 303*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* The then abbess, Joan Temmes, upon the surrender obtained a pension of 40*l.* per annum. See Willis's *Mitred Abbies*, Vol. II. App. p. 28.

The abbey, together with the manor of Lacock, were granted in the thirty-second year of Henry VIII. to *Sir William Sherrington*, who received a confirmation of the original deed in his favour from Edward VI. This gentleman was the last male heir of his family, and is represented as having been a man of singular piety and benevolence.\* He left two daughters, the elder of whom, Olivia, married *John Talbot*, Esq. of Salwarp, and thereby conveyed to him the abbey of Lacock, which had previously been converted into a family mansion. The male line of these Talbots becoming extinct it descended to Dr. Davenport, formerly a physician at Bath, who thereupon took the name of Talbot. From him it descended to the present proprietor Henry Fox Talbot, son of the late William Davenport Talbot, and Lady Elizabeth, his wife, daughter to the late Earl of Chester, and is now in the occupation of John Rock Grosett, Esq.

The *Talbots* having been warmly attached to the family of Stuart, Lacock abbey was fortified and garrisoned in the royal cause during the early part of the grand rebellion in the seventeenth century. It was besieged, however, by Colonel Devereux in September 1645, and after some resistance surrendered on honourable conditions. Sir John Talbot it is said was the first person who received Charles II. in his arms at his landing in England, on the occasion of the Restoration.

Lacock abbey was formerly a large and very interesting pile of building, and contained, within its own inclosure, all the proper accommodations for its secluded inmates. Though several large, and almost perfect parts of the monastic features remain,  
yet

\* He was the particular friend of the celebrated Bishop Jewell, who, according to the author of *Magna Britannia*, in one passage, died at Lacock abbey; but in another passage Monkton Farley is stated to have been the place of his death.

yet many have been entirely removed, and others considerably altered. The whole appears to have surrounded two quadrangular courts, ranging north and south. That to the north was appropriated to the subordinate offices and appendages, and that to the south to the church, chapter-house, refectory, hall, &c. surrounding a cloister. Three sides of the latter remain in a perfect state, and display a truly interesting example of this species of domestic accommodation. As bodily exercise is essential to health, and as the inmates of a monastery were precluded from travelling about the country, they required dry terrace paths, and covered ways within the precincts of their own houses. This cloister appears by its architectural features to have been built about the time of King Henry IV.\*

Within these cloisters many of the nuns and other individuals, were buried, and here are still three monumental stones, one of which formerly covered the ashes of the venerable foundress of the monastery. This stone was removed from the choir of the church at the time of its destruction. It seems to have been inlaid with brass, and is inscribed thus:—

“ INFRA SUNT DEPOSITA ELÆ VENRABILIS, OSSA, QUÆ  
DEDIT HAS SEDES SACRAS (MONIALIBUS), † QUARUM AB  
BATISSA QUIDEM QUÆ SANCTE VIXIT IBIDEM ET COMITISSA  
SARUM VIRTUTUM PLENA BONARUM OBIIT 1261.”

Here repose the bones of the venerable Ela, who gave this sacred mansion to nuns, of whom indeed she was abbess, and who lived here piously, after having been Countess of Sarum, and died full of virtues, 1261.

Neither of the other tombstones have any inscription, but one of them exhibits the effigy of a bishop, and is supposed to have belonged to Nicholas, Bishop of Salisbury (son to Ela) whose  
heart

\* A view of the interior of the cloister is given in “ *The Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain*,” and a view of the abbey from the south-east is engraved for Vol. III. *Beauties of Wiltshire*.

† This word is illegible. It is supplied here from conjecture.

heart was buried at Lacock, though, as said before, his body was deposited in his own cathedral, and his bowels at Rainsbury. The third stone is quite plain.

On the east side of the cloisters are the vestry, the chapter-house, and other ancient apartments. One of these rooms is divided by columns into two ailes, and has a groined roof. The capitals of the columns are without ornament. This room was formerly the nun's kitchen; in it is a large, oblong stone trough, measuring eleven feet three inches in length, by four feet eleven inches in breadth, and two feet four inches in depth. It is cut out of a single block of stone, and is generally conjectured to have been used for the purpose of keeping a supply of live fish. The chapter-house resembles this apartment in being divided by columns into two parts, but the columns and groins in the latter are more enriched than in the former. Here likewise are two tombstones. Of these the one is plain, and the other belongs to Ilbertus de Cai before mentioned, as having been brought from Monkton Farley.\* The vaulted roof of the vestry room is supported by two columns: the capitals are plain, and there is little architectural ornament throughout; the places for chalices, holy water, &c. are very evident. From the cloisters a doorway leads to a fine terrace walk, which was formerly the site of the abbey-church. Of that once magnificent edifice only part of the north wall is standing, but its extent and shape can nevertheless be traced with tolerable accuracy. From its great length it seems to have had a choir for the exclusive use of the nuns, behind the altar. Adjoining the vestry room stands the *tower*, the lower compartment of which formed the treasury, or muniment room, in which are several recesses. In the room above is now kept an original copy of the *Magna Charta* of Henry III. It is twenty inches and a half in length, and twelve inches and three quarters in breadth, and has a seal of green wax appended to it by a skein of coloured silk. On the back of it is the following indorsement written in a contemporary

\* Vide ante, p. 495.



porary hand, "*Ex deposito militum Wiltishir Hennerici regis filii Joannis Regis de Libertatibus et quibusdam consuetudinibus per Angliam Constitutis.*" This deed was deposited here by Ela, Countess of Salisbury, during the period she executed the office of sheriff for the county of Wilts, being, as the indorsement imports, the copy of the principal sent to her in that capacity for the use of the knights and military tenants of Wiltshire, as happened with respect to all the other counties in England. In the upper room is a curious stone table, supported by figures of heathen deities. This room is in a line with the leads of the house, and by means of a flight of steps to a small adjoining turret easy access is obtained to the roof, from whence an extensive and varied landscape presents itself to the eye.

The old hall of the abbey which was attached to the north side of the cloisters has evidently been a capacious and noble room, but its interior is now entirely built up into modern passages, servants' rooms, &c. Its place is supplied by a modern hall, formerly the refectory, which is situated on the west side of the cloisters. The roof of this room is decorated with numerous coats of arms, emblazoned in proper colours; and the side walls are ornamented with a great number and variety of small statues, busts, &c. in terra cotta, relating to the history of the abbey. Beneath this apartment is a vaulted room, or crypt. Branching out from the hall is the modern dining room. Adjoining which were formerly several other rooms, in one of which Queen Elizabeth slept. The other parts of the abbey chiefly entitled to notice are the south gallery, the library, and the stone gallery; the last contains some stained glass in its windows, and several antique chairs, said to have been part of the camp furniture of King Charles II.; also a pair of Elk, or Moose deer horns, most beautifully ramified, and perhaps the largest in England.

There are but few pictures of any merit in the abbey. We may, however, except a portrait of Henry VIII. which, although considerably injured, appears to have been a fine painting, and is said to be an original by the celebrated Hans Holbein. Here is also a full

full length portrait of Charles I. in a landscape, with two attendants and horses, the bust or head of which appears to be by Vandijk, and the rest of the picture by his pupils.

On the top of Lacock abbey is an immense cistern capable of containing 110 hogsheads of water. It is filled by means of leaden pipes which convey the water, under ground, and under the bed of the river Avon, from a conduit on the summit of Bowden hill, a distance of somewhat more than a mile. The bell of the clock here was the *Matin bell* of the ancient abbey.

The pleasure grounds around this venerable mansion are of considerable extent, and are finely ornamented by the serpentine current of the Avon, and with several ponds designed as stews for the preservation of the more valuable fresh water fish. Close to one of these ponds in the garden, is the nuns *caldron*, or *culinary pot*, still preserved on a pedestal. It is capable of containing about sixty-seven gallons, and has the following inscription on its exterior surface.

“A Petro Waghuens in Mechlinia effusus factusque fueram, Anno Domini millesimo quingentesimo. Deo Laus et gloria Christo.”

“I was melted and cast by Peter Waghuens of Mechlin, in the year of our Lord one thousand five hundred. Praise to God, and glory to Christ.”

Opposite to the eastern side of the abbey, and at a short distance from the river Avon is a farm-house called *Bewly Court*, or *Bewly-priory*. A few ancient walls still remain, and give it the appearance of antiquity. It is not mentioned by ecclesiastical writers, but was probably a cell to some monastery.

Within the manor of Lacock there is now growing a very singular *Oak Tree*. About five feet from the ground, the trunk divides itself, and separates into four stems which rise perpendicular, and do not overhang the base of the original stock: by which means they appear like so many trees growing out of one stock. This tree is called the *four sisters*; and probably gave

rise to an error common in most maps of the county—that of marking a place or seat as the *fair sisters*, when in fact there is no such place.

In a chronicle of the monastery of Malmsbury intituled “*Eulogium Historiarum*,” \* a *castle* is said to have been erected at Lacock by Dunwallo Malmotius, a king of the Britons. Of this structure, if such ever existed, which is extremely doubtful, not a trace remains. At the Conquest the manor here was given to Walter d’Ereux, or de Ewrus, Earl of Rosmar, whose descendants were created Earls of Salisbury. To them it belonged till granted to the abbey by the Countess Ela.

Lacock, though as already mentioned, a market and fair town by charter, has almost abandoned these privileges, but it is still remembered when much corn was bought and sold regularly on the market day. The fair days are the 1st of July and 21st of December. Lacock, however, is still a respectable township, and contains many well built houses. In the centre of one of the streets is an ancient *stone cross*, in a much more entire condition than usually happens with similar structures. It consists of a single shaft elevated upon six tiers of steps, but without any sculptural decorations.

The *Church*, which is an ancient building, contains several monumental erections in honour of the proprietors of Lacock; the Baynards and Montagues of Lackam, and the Johnsons, of Bowden-Park. The tomb of *Sir William Sherington* is large, and covered with sculptured ornaments, but bears no inscription, except the name written in gilt letters on the interior of the canopy under which it is placed. Near it is the monument of *John Talbot, Esq.* who was born in 1630, and died in 1713. It is inscribed with a long Latin epitaph, from which we learn that it was erected by John Talbot, his nephew and heir. Another monument has this inscription :

“ Here lies *Edward Baynard, Esq.* who, for the space of many years yeven to his dying days was justice of the peace and  
corum

borum, and sometimes custos rotolorum and high sheriff of ye county of Wilts—an enemy to no man. 1575.

Let envye saye what it can,  
This was an honest man :  
Who in his life did many goode,  
And to the truth firmly stode ;  
Religious, wise, and just was hee,  
And ever lived worthylic."

The other principal monuments in this church are one to the memory of *Admiral James Montague*, who fell January 1, 1794, at the battle off Ushant under Earl Howe, and another inscribed thus :

To the memory of JAMES, LATE LORD BISHOP OF WORCESTER, second son of the Rev. James Johnson, M. A. many years rector of Long Melford in the county of Suffolk, and grandson of George Johnson, Esq. of Bowden-Park, in this county. In the year 1752 he was consecrated Bishop of Gloucester ; and, in the year 1759, was translated to the See of Worcester, in which cathedral a monument is erected to his memory. He died at Bath on the 27th day of November, 1775, and in the 70th year of his age, in consequence of a most unfortunate fall from his horse, and was buried here in the vault of his ancestors:

This monument may also record the unhappy fate of his elder brother, who met with his death at Bath by a like accident a few years before, and was buried here:

The living of Lacock is a vicarage, the advowson of which is vested in the lord of the manor. According to the population returns of 1811 the parish contains 267 houses, and 1485 inhabitants.

*John Mann*, a divine, a writer, and a political character of some eminence in the sixteenth century, was a native of this parish.

\* See account of Bishop Johnson in Green's History of Worcester.

parish. The precise date of his birth is unknown; but he appears, from the "*Athenæ Oxonienses*," to have been educated at Winchester School, whence he was elected probationer of New College, Oxford, in 1529, and a few years afterwards was made perpetual fellow. In 1540 he was expelled from the University for heresy; but, in 1547, he was restored, and constituted principal of White-Hall, since merged, in Jesus College. On the accession of Queen Elizabeth he became chaplain to the celebrated Parker, Archbishop of Canterbury, who named him warden of Merton College. In 1565 he obtained the deanery of Gloucester; and, in the second year after, was dispatched as ambassador to the king of Spain. A priest, called Gooseman, being then representative of that monarch in England, the queen used facetiously to remark, that as her brother of Spain had been pleased to send her a Goose-man, she had aptly returned him the compliment by sending him a Man-goose. Man having spoken very irreverently of the Pope, while at Madrid, was compelled to leave the city, and forbidden the exercise of his own religion. In consequence of this, he was recalled to England, and died shortly after his arrival in London, March 18, 1568. This divine wrote and translated several pieces; and, among others, one, intitled, "*Common Places of Christian Religion*, gathered by Wolfg. Musculus," &c. London, 1563.

BOWDEN-PARK, the seat of the Dickinson family, is about one mile east of Lacock, and within that parish. The house is a modern structure, built by the late Barnard Dickinson, Esq. from designs by — Wyatt, Esq. architect. Its principal front towards the west has a semicircular portico, with Ionic columns.\* It stands on the brow of a steep hill, and commands very extensive prospects to the west, south, and north, over parts of Wiltshire, Somersetshire, and Gloucestershire. From the front of the house the ground slopes rapidly to a fine mass of hanging wood: and

\* The annexed print shews the west and south sides of the house.

and the other parts of the grounds are embellished with woods and plantations. This estate was formerly in the possession of Sir John Eyles Stiles, Bart. who built the shell of a large mansion here, but not living to complete it, the materials were sold: and parts were conveyed to Draycot, to Chippenham, and to Devizes. Ezekiel Dickinson, Esq. father of the late possessor, bought the Bowden estate of Sir Francis Haskins Stiles, Bart. in year 1751. At the eastern extremity of the park, is a handsome modern Lodge, built from designs of Jeffery Wyatt, Esq. Close to this is an ancient gateway to Spye-park, which is traditionally said to have been first raised at Corsham in the time of Henry VIII. afterwards removed to Bromham, as mentioned by Leland; and, lastly, brought to its present situation.

LACKHAM, near Lacock, soon after the Conquest, was the property of William de Ewe, or de Ow, who was attainted for treason in the reign of William Rufus. It afterwards passed into the possession of the Baynards, and continued in that family for several centuries: At length it came by marriage to the Montagues. The house, a plain modern edifice, is situated in a rich and fertile vale.

A considerable number of Roman coins having been dug up in this vicinity, Mr. Aubrey was of opinion that Lackham was the site of the ancient *Verlucio* of Antoninus; but that station is properly fixed at Heddington, north of Devizes.

On the opposite side of the Avon are two buildings, still designated by the appellations of *Great Lodge* and *Little Lodge*, in allusion to their appropriation as lodges in the forest of Pewis-ham, which was bounded on this part by the river. King Edward III. granted to Edward Baynard, and his heirs for ever, the privilege of hunting in that forest, "with power to kill and carry away either stag or fallow-deer, as also to command the king's keepers to assist him in the chase after the deer was wounded by cross-bow, &c. notice being given to the lodge by

winding a horn, &c." This grant remained in force till Pewis-ham was disafforested by King James I.

**HARTHAM-PARK**; about two miles north of Corsham, the seat of ——— Ensor, Esq. was lately the property of Lord Rauccliffe, who inherited it from his grandmother, Lady James, the friend and correspondent of Sterne. This estate had long been the property of the Goddard family, and devolved to Lady James, as one of the co-heiresses of Edward Goddard, Esq. The house was principally built by Lady James, who also made considerable embellishments in the gardens and contiguous park. In the parish of Hartham is a mansion, which has long been in the possession of the *Ducket family*.

**BIDDESTONE**, or **BIDSTON**, is a parish of considerable extent, and comprises a district which was formerly divided into two parishes. In the church is a monument to commemorate *Edmund Smith*, A. M. who was a poet of some repute. He was the only son of ——— Neale, a merchant of London, and was born at Hanley, in Worcestershire, in 1668. After passing through a desultory and very irregular life, he died in July, 1709, at the seat of George Ducket, Esq. at Hartham. He assumed the name of Smith, from his uncle, who had adopted, and supported him at school.

Mr. Smith's published writings are, a translation of Longinus; a Poem to the memory of Mr. John Philips; several Odes; and a Tragedy, intitled "*Phædra and Hypolitus*;" the last of which was acted in 1709. The prologue to this play was written by Mr. Addison. The whole of these productions, together with a Latin oration, in *Laudem Thomæ Bodleii*, pronounced publicly at Oxford, were published under the title of his works, in 1719.\*

SLAUGH-

\* "*Biographia Dramatica*," &c. 3 vols. 8vo. 1812.

SLAUGHTENFORD, a village situated to the west of Biddestone, on the Box brook, bears in its name the memory of some great slaughter, as tradition reports, of the Danes. Whitaker, in his "Life of St. Neot," contends that it was the scene of the battle of Ethandun; but, as has been before stated, various opinions are entertained on this subject.\*

Westward from Slaughtenford, near the Fosse road, is a large wood, called *Bury-Wood*, within which are the remains of a large encampment, reputed to be of Danish construction, and supposed, by the author last mentioned, to have been the fortress to which the Danes, under Guthrum, retired after their defeat at Ethandun. This entrenchment is stated to consist of a double ditch and vallum, inclosing an area of eighteen acres, and having two entrances. In this vicinity is the village of COLERNE, which was almost totally destroyed by fire in 1770. Northward from this place is *Lucknam*, formerly a seat of a branch of the Methuen family.

NORTH-WRAXHALL is a considerable village and parish, situated on the confines of the county with Gloucestershire. The manor here, and the advowson of the church, belonged, in the reigns of Henry VI. and Edward IV. to Thomas Younge, chief justice of the court of Common Pleas under the latter monarch.† They afterwards became the property of the family of Methuen, several of whom have monuments in the church. About two miles to the north of this village, in the parish of *West-Kington*, or *Keynton*, is a small single-ditched encampment, commonly attributed to the Romans. It is of a square form, and occupies a gentle swell called *Ebdown*.

204

LITTLETON-

\* Vide ante. p. 19—452.

† This gentleman, while at the bar, was recorder of Bristol, and several times representative for that city in Parliament. In 1453 he moved in the House of Commons, that as King Henry had no issue, the Duke of York should be declared heir-apparent to the throne; and for so doing was committed to the Tower. He died in 1476, leaving a son of his own name, who died in 1506, and was buried in Redcliffe Church, Bristol.—See "An Historical and Architectural Essay relating to Redcliffe Church."



**LITTLETON-DREW.** In an open field, near this village, is a large *barrow*, with three stones of a fallen *cromlech* on the top. Two of these stones remain erect, but the other is leaning against them, and appears to have fallen from the top of the uprights. The stones are of considerable dimensions; and are unquestionably, with the tumulus, of a sepulchral nature. The name of the place, like Stanton-Drew, in Somersetshire, and Drew-Stainton, in Devonshire, point out its origin and antiquity. The British Druids most probably had a temple here, with tumuli and cromlechs in its vicinity: but all have been levelled and desecrated by the husbandman. Collinson, in his "History: &c. of Somersetshire," attributes this monument to the Romans, but without either proof, argument, or probability. It is certain that we have a Roman work in the immediate vicinity: but the *fosse-road* does not appear to have had any connection with, or relation to this cromlech. The *fosse-way* is a bold and prominent feature of this district. It has been already noticed; (p. 34.) but it may be proper to mention its course through this angle of Wiltshire, more particularly. Leaving Somersetshire, at the south-western-angle of the parish of Colerne, it forms the boundary between Gloucestershire and Wiltshire for about two miles, where it turns decidedly into this county, and continues its course through the parishes of North-Wraxhall, West-Kington, Littleton-Drew, and Foxley, to Easton-Grey. Within the last-mentioned parish it communicates its name to the remarkable eminence called Fosse-Knoll, on which was situated "the ancient city of White-Walls," as will be further noticed in the sequel. From Easton-Grey it again skirts the counties of Gloucester and Wilts for the space of nearly two miles, when it once more enters Wiltshire, crossing the turnpike-road to Malmesbury, and isolating, as it were, the parishes of Long-Newton and Ashley, which jut out into Gloucestershire. Leaving Ashley it proceeds along the confines of the county to its furthest point, whence it passes to Cirencester, the ancient *Corinium* of Antoninus. As the term *fossu* among the Romans, and *fosse* in English, signifies

signifies ditch, a reader made acquainted with the foss-road by name only, naturally conceives it to be a track between two embankments, thus forming an exception to the ordinary construction of Roman Roads. This idea, however, is directly the reverse of the truth. The fosse-road, so far from resembling a ditch, is perhaps the loftiest of any Roman road in this island, rising several feet above the level of the adjacent ground. How it came to be designated by its present appellation is therefore a question of some difficulty. Dr. Stukeley says, "I apprehend the fosse is the name transmitted through the British, which comes from digging, as being an artificial road; whence they are often called dikes, a word of contrary signification, as the Latin *altus*." But this opinion is indefinite, for as all the roads are alike artificial, they ought, according to this account, to be called fosse-roads.

CASTLE-COMBE is a considerable village situated on the Box Brooke, at the distance of six miles north-west from Chippenham. It was celebrated in ancient times for its castle, the baronial mansion of the Dunstanvilles. Bartholomew, Lord Badlesmere, one of the its subsequent possessors, obtained for it the privilege of holding a weekly market on Monday, and a fair on the fourth of May. The Cross, which served as a collecting nucleus for the market people is still standing in the midst of the village. It consists of a column, or shaft elevated on two high steps, and having quaterfoil ornaments round the base, with roses between.

The Church is an ancient building, divided into a nave, chancel, and side ailes, and ornamented by a square tower, about eighty feet high, which rises at the west end. This tower displays two handsome canopied niches on its western side, and is supported at each angle by buttresses surmounted by pinnacles, which appear to be of later date than the body of the structure itself. William of Worcester, who visited this church in the  
fifteenth

fifteenth century, says that the nave, exclusive of the choir, measured in length "40 gressus et 14 virgas et 20 pollices cum duobus alis," and that its breadth was "26 gressus et 14 virgas." The arch separating the nave from the chancel is in the pointed style, and is adorned with running foliage, and with statues in niches. The front is of an octagonal shape, and rests upon small clustered columns. In one of the ailes, commonly called Scropes-Aile, is an ancient mural tomb, placed under a recess, in the north wall, and bears the effigy of a knight habited in chain armour and having his legs crossed. At the head is a male figure holding the pillow; and at the feet a dog. On the front are six figures in canopied niches; but no inscription appears to designate the person for whom the sculptor has thus vainly exerted his skill.

Over the communion table is a monument, or cenotaph to the Scrope family. It is inscribed thus:

Antecessoribus Suis Ex pervetera SCROPORUM BARONUM  
*de Bolton* in Agro Ebor prosapia, recto et continuo mas-  
 culo Stemmati oriendis-Décem scilicet gradus a Richardo le  
 Scrope militi Barone de Bolton et Regnante Richardo Se-  
 cundo Angliæ Summo Cancellario, huic usque numerantur)  
 quorum fere omnium, per plures annorum centurias proxime  
 elapsas intra hujus ecclesiæ cancellis depositi cineres, nulli  
 hactenus marmore insigniti præsertim vero. Avo plurimum  
 colendo Johanni Scrope Armigero parentibus admodum  
 venerandis Richardo et Francisco patruli erga se suosque  
 beneficentissimo Georgio Scrope Armigero, et Maria uxori  
 ejus, fratribus Johanni, Gulielmi et (Quorum primus ille et  
 natu maximus S. T. Professor ecclesiæ de Kington St.  
 Michael vicarius, hujus rector tandem et patronus evasis,  
 vir bonus, integer, eruditus, pastor fidelis, prudens, in-  
 defessus ad perfectam sacrosanctæ religionis reformatæ in  
 quantum quidem mortalitate conceditur, voce scriptis ex-  
 ampto conformetur) sororibus Elisabethæ et Racheli, filioli de-  
 nique carissimo Johanni optimæ spei puero, vir dum decenni,

hiscæ

hisce omnibus pietatis suae et observantiae hoc quaecunque monumentum, posuit Richardus Scrope, S. T. P. hujus ecclesiae Rector et Patronus, A. D. 1778.

If implicit credit be given to a MS. volume in the possession of the present proprietor of the manor, it appears that there was a Castle at this place as early as the ninth century, and that it was demolished by the Danes in the year 875. This statement, however, is doubtful, as no such event is mentioned by William of Malmesbury, Henry of Huntingdon, Ethelwerd, Hoveden, or any other ancient writer, we have had an opportunity of consulting. Yet here are remains of a fosse and ramparts, which have more the aspect of early castrametation, than of the earthen defences, of a Baronial mansion. A correspondent seems to consider their form to be indicative of Roman construction, as he says, "here is a fine Roman camp;" and we are ignorant of any entrenchment in this neighborhood, but that within which Combe Castle is said to have stood. The idea therefore that these ramparts were raised before the Conquest, and were occupied by the Saxons, or by the Danes, or by both, in succession, is not altogether visionary; but the fact of a Saxon stationary fortress having existed on this spot is not attested by such satisfactory evidence as to render it a historic truth. Indeed the earliest authentic notice we have of Castle-Combe is in Domesday-Book, where it is stated "that the king holds Cumbe;" and that "Ghida held it T. R. E." contrary to the MS. book above mentioned, which asserts that it then also belonged to the crown. How long it continued to be a royal domain after the Conquest is uncertain; but in the reign of King Stephen it was possessed by Reginald, Earl of Cornwall, natural son to King Henry II.; and was given by him to his son-in-law, Walter de Donstanville, who, according to the author of Magna Britannia, built a castle at Combe, and thus gave occasion to the prefix to its original appellation. His lineal descendants in the male line were four in succession, two of whom were of his own name. These barons seem to have been men of great power, and highly distinguished for those qualities, which

which in the days of feudalism were held to be most worthy of nobility. The last of them died A. D. 1269, leaving an only daughter, Petronilla, heiress to his large possessions. This lady, who was twenty-two years of age at her father's demise, married Sir Robert de Montfort, and brought him a son and successor, named William, by whom Castle-Combe was alienated for life, to John de la Mere, and reversionally in fee to Bartholomew, Lord Badlesmere, for the sum of 1000*l*. His lordship was succeeded by a son also named Bartholomew, who died in 1333, leaving one son, Giles, and several daughters. \* Giles, having no issue, Margaret his fourth sister obtained the manor of Castle-Combe, and carried it by marriage to Sir John Tibtot, Knight. He died in 1367, and had for his successor a son, Sir Robert Tibtot, whose estates, as there was no male issue, fell to three daughters, Margaret, Elizabeth, and Milicent. These having been all young, when their father deceased, were given in wardship to *Sir Richard Scrope, Knight, Lord Scrope of Bolton*, in Yorkshire, who married the two eldest to two of his own sons, and the youngest to Philip le Despenser. On their coming of age the estates of Sir Robert, their father, were divided among them by agreement, under an indenture tripartite; (a copy of which is still preserved at Castle-Combe) and in virtue of that deed Milicent, wife of Sir Stephen le Scrope obtained possession of Castle-Combe. This Stephen was the lineal ancestor of the present proprietor of the manor, to whom we are highly indebted for his ready and liberal communications relative to his family, and to the lordship. Stephen was the second son of Sir Richard Scrope, Lord Bolton, and held the important dignity of Lord Deputy of Ireland, under Thomas, Earl of Lancaster; the king's son. Among the papers at Castle-Combe is an original account of him in that capacity. He died in 1408, at Tristell Dermot, in that kingdom, leaving two sons, Stephen and Robert. It appears by his will that he had also a daughter Elizabeth; but it is not known whether she survived him or not. Milicent, his widow, afterwards married Sir John Fastolf, then John Fastolf, Esq. who,

as appears by several writings still extant, contrived to possess himself of the greater part of his son-in-law's property, not only during the life of his lady, but also during his own life, which was procrastinated twenty-three years beyond the period of her death; she having deceased in 1446, and he in 1469 \*. Hence it was sixty-one years before Stephen came into the possession of all his patrimonial estates. How Sir John was enabled to effect this purpose cannot now be easily determined, but that some unfair means were resorted to, is rendered manifest by various documents, drawn up in the name of Stephen Scrope, and preserved at Castle-Combe, complaining in bitter terms of the barbarous treatment he had met with from his father-in-law, whom he only survived about two years, when he was succeeded by an only son, Sir John Scrope, Knight, who died in 1515, and left his estates to Richard Scrope, Esq. This gentleman deceased in 1572, and was succeeded by his eldest surviving son, George, who died in 1604, and had for his successor, a son named John. The latter departed this life in the year 1645, about two months posterior to the death of his only son John, and was therefore succeeded by a grandson of his own name, whose death happened in February 1714-15. This John had likewise for his successor, a grandson called Gorges; who dying without issue, (as did all his father's brothers, except Richard) bequeathed the manor of Castle-Combe "to his wife Mary, for the term of her life, with remainder to his sisters Agnes and Rachel successively; with remainder to John the eldest son of the said Richard Scrope and his heirs male; with remainder to Richard the other son of the said Richard, and his heirs male; with remainder to the right heirs of the said John Scrope." The two sisters of the said Gorges survived him only a few years, but his widow, Mary, lived till July 14, 1774, when the manor of Castle-Combe devolved by virtue of the above entail to John Scrope, D. D. the eldest son of the said Richard Scrope; and upon his death, without children, A. D. 1777, to his only surviving

\* See the Paston Letters, published by Fenn.

living brother Richard Scrope, D. D. from whom it descended to his second son William Scrope, Esq. the present proprietor.

From the above account, which we are assured is correct, and can be substantiated incontestably by a variety of documents, it is evident that the Scropes have possessed the manor of Castle-Combe during the long period of nearly 430 years, the tripartite indenture before mentioned being dated in 1315. Their history previous to that era is likewise well known; and indeed it may be generally remarked that the family of Scrope is one of the most noble, and best authenticated, we have upon record. They were formerly Barons of Bolton and Masham, and are maternally descended from the ancient Barons of Tibbetot and Badlesmere, and from the Earls of Clare, Gloucester, Hertford, and Pembroke. From the same account, it is likewise evident that Dr. Heylin is greatly mistaken, when he says, in his "Help to English History," (under the title Bolton) that Emanuel, Lord Scrope of Bolton and Earl of Sunderland, who died in 1628, "was the last heir male of this noble family." It being unquestionably certain that Sir Stephen Scrope, the husband of Milicent Tibtot, was next brother to Roger Scrope, son and heir to Richard, Lord Scrope, it follows, that if the line of Roger became extinct in the person of Emanuel, (and there never has been any claimant in that line) the owner of Castle-Combe has an undoubted claim to the Barony of Bolton.

At what period the castellated mansion built by Walter de Dunstanyville was dismantled we have been unable to ascertain; but we presume this must have taken place before the year 1400, as it is mentioned by William of Worcester, as being completely destroyed, "dirutum" before his time. It occupied the summit of a hill to the north of the village, and still displays in the remains of its embankments, enough to mark its former strength and importance, unless these works, as before noticed, are to be considered as properly referable to a more remote origin, and different appropriation. The present manor-house is situated in the valley, close to the Box river. The hills by which it is en-  
vironed

viroured are many of them covered with hanging woods, and others with fine oaks and immense walnut trees. The most conspicuous eminence seen from the windows is that on which the castle stood. The ancient boundaries of the park have been re-established by the present possessor, and the whole is kept in a good state of repair.

GRITTLETON is a village situate about a mile to the north-east of Castle-Combe. The manor here formerly belonged to the family of Gore, and was afterwards possessed by Colonel White, governor of the fort at Bristol, and a Colonel in the Parliamentary army, during the civil war, in the reign of Charles I. By the marriage of that officer's daughter with a Houlton, it passed into the family of the present proprietor, Lieutenant Colonel Houlton, of Farley Castle. The parish comprehends an extent of 22,000 acres; and comprises two hamlets called *Upper* and *Lower Foscot*. Many curious fossils are discovered within its boundaries, particularly petrifications of periwinkles, and other shell fish, some of which are likewise found in the adjacent parishes. Among the most curious of these is the *Enchrinus*, or *Enchrinites*. These are considered to be fossil remains of some animal of the Zoophyte species. The specimens found here are detached fragments of the vertebræ: uniformly round, regular, and perfectly smooth; flat at one end, and convex at the other. The substance is flinty, or silicious, and is formed of regular lamellated portions, in its horizontal direction, with circular lines, or radii in the perpendicular. See particular and interesting accounts of these fossils, with plates in Parkinson's "Organic Remains," Vol. II.

In the church is one monument in honour of a Gore, and others, to commemorate different members of the Houlton family, whose old manor house is in the middle of the village. The living is a rectory held by the Rev. J. Burne, by whose father the advowson was purchased.



KINGTON-ST. MICHAEL, or as pronounced *Kinton*, is a village situated three miles to the north of Chippenham. According to Aubrey, it was originally called Kington Monachorum, or Kington-Moine, and received the adjunct designation St. Michael, in later times, from the circumstance of its church having been dedicated to the archangel of that name. The same antiquary informs us that this place formerly possessed a small weekly market, as also an annual fair on Michaelmas day, which is still continued; and that the market cross stood near its northern extremity. These privileges he supposed, to have been granted to the nuns of the adjoining priory, but at what period or by whom, he was unable to discover. The market has ceased upwards of two centuries.

The parish church here is an ancient structure, erected, as tradition reports, by Michael, Abbot of Glastonbury, who lived in the reign of Henry III.; but from the style of its architecture, part of it would appear to be of an earlier date. It consists of a nave, chancel, and two side aisles, with a tower at the west end, which, little more than a century ago, was according to Aubrey, surmounted by a spire, since thrown down. The north door-way has a semicircular arch with zigzag mouldings, and has a crowned head, (which Aubrey conjectures to be that of "King Ethelred, whose seat this was,") cut in bold relief over the key-stone. Three of the arches dividing the nave from the aisles are also circular, as is that which separates it from the chancel. The other arches are in the early pointed style; and so likewise are all the windows except those of the tower, which are rounded. In some of the windows are fragments of stained glass, exhibiting mutilated representations of male and female figures, coats of arms, &c. Aubrey states that the south window contained, in his time, full length portraits of King Ethelred and his queen.

This church contains a variety of monuments, and of interred slabs, some of which it may be proper to notice. In the middle

middle of the chancel is a stone, inlaid with brass, and bearing an inscription to the memory of *Sir Charles Snell*, Knight, who died November 24, 1651; \* and near it is another, commemorating "*Dame Jane Englefield*, widow of Sir Francis Englefield, Baronet, deceased, eldest daughter of Anthony Brown, Esq. eldest sonne of Henry, Lord Viscount Montague, of Cowdray, in the countie of Sussex." This lady died September 10, 1650. In the south-east angle of the same division of the church, is a stone covering the remains of *Richard Aubrey*, Esq. father to the celebrated antiquary, John Aubrey. Two other stones here bear inscriptions, in honour of *Nicholas Gastrel*, Gent. and his wife, the former of whom died in 1662, and the latter in 1661.

In the north aisle were buried *Mr. Thomas Lyte*, of Easton Piers; also his son *Isaac Lyte*, grandfather to John Aubrey, and his wife *Mrs. Israel Lyte*, daughter to Thomas Brown, of Winterbourne Bassett, Gent. The first died in 1627, the second in 1659, and the third in 1661. Here are likewise marble slabs to commemorate *Benjamin Griffin*, M. A. of New College, Oxford, vicar of this parish; and *James Gilpin*, a descendant from the Snell family by the female line.

Kington manor, in the time of the Saxons was a royal domain, and as appears from the "*Legier booke of Glastonbury*," was the country residence of some of the monarchs of that dynasty. King Athelstan granted it for life "*fidelo ministro Athelino*," † and his successor Ethelred afterwards gave it to the Abbey of Glastonbury. At a subsequent period it was constituted the Ab-

VOL. XV.—June 1814,

2 P

bot's

\* This gentleman was son to *Sir Thomas Snell*, of whom Aubrey says, "He was a good astrologer, understood navigation, and was a Captain in the Island Voyage." Sir Charles in his youth was intimate with Sir Walter Raleigh, who is said to have "engaged him to build a ship (the *Angel Gabriel*) for the designe for Guiana, wch cost him the manor of Yatton-Keynell, the farme at Easton-Piers, Thornhill, and the church-lease of Bps. Caunings; wch ship, upon Sir W. R's attainder, was forfeited." Letters from the Bodleian Library, &c. Vol. II. p. 514.

† Cart. Athelstan. int. MSS. Aubrey. Ashmolean Mus. Oxford.

bot's-Grange, and continued such till the era of the dissolution, when it was purchased, as Aubrey states, "by Snell, the abbot's Reeve, who payde halfe the money to the king, with the arrears he kept in his hands, forseeing the fall of the abbeyes." \* This gentleman rebuilt the manor-house of Kington; and was a considerable benefactor to the church. He was ancestor to Sir Charles Snell before mentioned. Within the park attached to this house was formerly a spring called *Marian's-Well*; also a noble carp pond of several acres in extent. This park, previous the Reformation, was in common to the abbot's tenants.

In the village are *Almshouses*, which were built and endowed by the above named Isaac Lyte, who was an alderman of London. These almshouses, as well as an endowed *Freeschool*, are either wholly neglected, or the funds not fully and properly applied.

About a quarter of a mile from the village stands the PRIORY, or NUNNERY OF ST. MARY, the origin of which is uncertain; but Aubrey says that a Mr. Tyndal told him that it was founded by the Empress Maud; and Tanner refers its establishment to a period prior to the reign of Henry II. The inmates were Nuns of the Benedictine order, and were subject to the jurisdiction of the Abbey of Glastonbury. In the reign of Henry VII. according to the author of the *Notitia*, their number was limited to a prioress and eight nuns; and just before the dissolution they were reduced to four. From Aubrey's statement, however, they appear to have been much more numerous. His words are these: "On the east side of the house is a ground facing the east, with a delightful prospect to the south-east, called the *Nymph-Hay*. Here old Jacques would say he has seen forty or fifty sisters, (nunnies) in the morning spinning with their rocks and wheelies and bobbing. He said the number often was seventy. He might not be mistaken, perhaps in the number of women; for there might be as many lay sisters and pensioners as nunnies; but nunnies not so many." Mortimer, Earl of March, was a great

\* Aubrey's MSS. Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.

great benefactor to this house. Its revenues at the valuation in the time of Henry VIII. were estimated, according to Dugdale, at 25*l.* 9*s.* 1*ob*; but as Speed, at 38*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.* The last prioress was Lady Mary a Dennis of Gloucestershire, and the last priest, Parson Whaddon. After the suppression the buildings of this nunnery were granted to Sir Richard Long, who converted them into a family mansion, which Aubrey characterizes as a "very pleasant seate." The same writer tells us, that in his days neither glasse, chancel, nor monument remained in the chapel, "which was very fayre;" but that stone coffins were frequently dug up in the garden; also a circular stone about two feet diameter, having in the centre, on one side, a heart held between two hands; it was found at the foot of a grave in which a chalice had been deposited with the deceased. Our Wiltshire antiquary further adds, "In the old hedges belonging to this priory, and in the hedge of the Priory-Downe, are yet a great number of berberry trees, which it is likely the nunnes used for confection, which art they taught the young ladies that were bred up there; for in those dayes the women were bred at nunneries; no such schools as Hackney, or \* \* \*, for women till since the Reformation."\* The buildings surrounded a small square court, at the north side of which was the chapel; some arches of the latter, with the buildings round the court were standing about thirty years back. On the east side was a large garden, walled round, with two raised terraces. In a valley near the house is a trout stream, and also remains of fish-ponds. The house and adjoining grounds have long been appropriated to a farm.

North-west of Kington St. Michael is the hamlet of EASTON-PIERSE, or EASTON-PIERCY, the birth-place of John Aubrey, an antiquary of considerable reputation, who describes it in these terms: "Easton Pierce was anciently a parish of itself. It was a little mannour, where is yet to be seen tofts †. It is now in the

2 P 2

parish

\* MS: Aubrey. Ashmolean Mus. Oxford.

† Places, or sites of buildings; sometimes applied to a grove, or tuft of trees.

parish of Kington St. Michael, which is now in another hundred, viz. in the hundred of Damerham-North. In the time of King Henry VII. a world of little mannors over England were destroyed; as several here about. q. when this was annexed to Kington. The chapel was pulled down about fourtie years since; it was but small and \* \* \* a turret for two tintinabules, as at Leigh-Delamere, Corston, and Brokenborough. The toft where it stood is still called the Chapel-Hay, neere to the mannour-house: they did bury here. This mannour butted upon Cotteswold, (which was a ploughed campagne) and (I have heard) that fower score yeares' agoe from the Yatton Keynel townes end to the parson's close adjoining to Easton ground all was common, and Yatton and Easton did intercommon together; and putt in cattle equally. At the crosse way by the pond stood the crosse; a piece whereof is at this house a trough, and at Cromwells the font stone serves for cattle to drink."

The manor here anciently belonged to the family of the Piers's, as the addition to the name of the hamlet imports. Aubrey assures us that he had seen deeds executed while they were its proprietors. The Piers's were succeeded by the Estons, who took their surname from the place. How long the latter continued in possession is uncertain; but the manor had passed from them to the Yveltons in the reign of Henry IV. In the time of Henry VII. it had become the property of Lord Dawboney; who sold it to Thomas Essex, father of Sir William Essex, some time lord treasurer to King Henry VIII. By the latter gentleman it was sold to Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst, from whom it was purchased by John and Thomas Light, or Lyte. This Thomas Light, who was great grandfather to Aubrey, sold the manor-house, with the land near it, to Thomas Snell, and built a mansion for his own residence "on the brow of the hill above the brooke, facing the south-east." He was succeeded by a son, named Isaac, whose monument has been already noticed; and who dying without issue male, left his estates to an only daughter, Deborah, wife of Richard Aubrey, Esq. and mother to

JOHN

JOHN AUBREY, R. S. S. the distinguished antiquary, so often mentioned, who was born at Easton Pierse, in the house already referred to, on the 12th of March, in the year 1629. While a boy he was very desirous to make himself acquainted with different branches of handicraft business ; as “ joiners’ work, carpenters’ work, masonry, and the like.” The rudiments of Latin he learned under Mr. R. Latimer, rector of Leigh-de-la-Mere ; but this celebrated instructor having died about six months after Aubrey’s initiation, he was subsequently placed (to use his own words) “ under severall dull, ignorant teachers till 12, 1638,” when he was sent to a school at Blandfords Hill in Dorsetshire. In May, 1642, he became a gentleman commoner of Trinity College, Oxford ; but was recalled home in August following, on account of the commencement of hostilities between the King and the Parliament. He resumed his collegiate studies, however, in February 1643 ; but having been seized with the small-pox about two months afterwards, he was again summoned to Easton-Pierse to perfect his recovery. Here, as he observes himself, he led, “ a sad life, conversing with none but servants and rustiques (to my great grief, for in those days fathers were not acquainted with their children,) and soldiers quartered.” At length, in 1646, he was relieved from this distressing situation, by obtaining permission to study the law in the Middle Temple, from which time he resided alternately at Oxford and at London till December, 1648, when the alarming indisposition of his father occasioned his return to Easton-Pierse. In 1652 his father died, leaving him very considerable estates in different counties, but embarrassed with a debt of 1800*l.* and a lawsuit, which eventually cost him 1200*l.* more. After this occurrence he lived chiefly at Broad-Chalk, in South-Wiltshire, occasionally at Easton-Pierse, and in Term time at London. At one period he designed to have visited Rome, and for that purpose settled his estate on trustees ; but some unforeseen difficulties prevented the accomplishment of his wishes. Soon after the Restoration, however, he went over to Ireland, and spent the summer of 1660, in viewing the inter-

esting, though even at the present day comparatively unexplored antiquities of the "emerald isle." In 1662 he was admitted a member of the Royal Society; and in the autumn of 1664 visited France. In 1666 his accumulating debts and law-suits forced him to sell his estates in Wiltshire, and successively all his lands in other counties; so that, in 1671, he was divested of his whole patrimony, and reduced even to want. His spirit nevertheless continued unbroken: and he had the consolation to find that the friends he had made when independent were deserving of the title. Among his principal benefactors were "The Right Hon. Nicholas Th——," "Edw. Wyld, Esq. R. S. S. of Glazely-Hall, Salop," and Lady Long, of Draycot, the last mentioned of whom appropriated to him an apartment in her house at Draycot-Cerne, and maintained him respectably till his death, which happened about A. D. 1700; but the place of his death and interment is not mentioned.

Aubrey, as he informs us himself, early displayed that attachment to the study of antiquities, which he cherished throughout life. That his labours in this branch of knowledge were strenuous and incessant, as is sufficiently attested by the manuscript collections he left behind. Anthony Wood, the historian of Oxford, was highly indebted to him in the compilation of his principal works, and acknowledges the obligation on several occasions; though latterly, when he had quarrelled with Aubrey, he characterizes him as a mere pretender to antiquities, "*roving and magotie\* headed*;" and so credulous, that he stuffed his letters "with follies and misinformations." This character of our antiquary, however, is not fully and strictly just; for though credulous, he was a man of considerable research, and of extensive information on all matters unconnected with the subject of astrology. In that science, if it deserves so dignified a name, he was certainly "magotie headed;" but his foolery was common to him with many of the greatest characters of his age. The writings of Bacon, of Locke,

\* The word *Magotty*, or *Magotie*, is still familiarly used in Wiltshire for fanciful, whimsical, or capricious.

Locke, and of Newton, had not yet given to mankind just habits of thinking. The mind still shackled by superstition, and bewildered by the absurdities of the Aristotelian and Ptolomaic schools, knew not how to appreciate the doctrines of the inductive philosophy; that philosophy which has already elevated our species to a higher rank in the scale of intelligence than it had attained in the most enlightened period of Grecian or Roman civilization.

The only work Aubrey published during his life-time, was one, styled by Wood, of the "folliry" description, intituled, "*Miscellanies*, upon the following subjects: 1. Day Fatality: 2. Local Fatality: 3. Ostenta: 4. Omens: 5. Dreams: 6. Apparitions: 7. Voices: 8. Impulses: 9. Knockings: 10. Blows, invisible: 11. Prophecies: 12. Marvels: 13. Magic: 14. Transportation in the Air: 15. Visions in a Beril, or Speculum: 16. Converse with Angels and Spirits: 17. Corpse Candles in Wales: 18. Oracles: 19. Extasies: 20. Glances of Love and Envy: 21. Second Sighted Persons: 22. The Discovery of two Murthers by Apparitions," &c. This volume was dedicated to the Earl of Abingdon, and has been reprinted. His manuscript collections were numerous; and many of them are still extant in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford. Among them was a "Perambulation of the County of Surrey, begun in 1673, and ended in 1692."\* A "Life of Thomas Hobbes, of Malmesbury." "Monumenta—Antiqua, or a Discourse concerning Stonehenge and Rollrich Stones;" and "The Natural History of the North Division of Wiltshire." A very curious and inter-

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esting

\* This work was revised, corrected, and published by Dr. Rawlinson, in 1718, in five volumes 8vo. under the title of "The Natural History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey; by John Aubrey, Esq. F. R. S. and continued to the present time, illustrated with proper Sculptures." A second edition, or, according to Worral, the same edition with a new title only, appeared in 1723, price 4s. 5s. To this edition was prefixed a copy of a curious commission to the author from Ogilby, requiring "all justices, mayors, and other officers in general, to assist Aubrey as his deputy, in his Survey by every means in their power, and particularly by giving free access to public registers, &c."—See Gough's British Topography, Vol. II.



resting work, in three volumes 8vo. was published in 1813, principally from the MSS. of this antiquary, under the title of "Letters, written by eminent Persons in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries; to which are added, Hearne's Journeys to Reading, and to Whaddon-Hall, the seat of Browne Willis, Esq.; and Lives of Eminent Men, by John Aubrey, Esq."

DRAYCOT-HOUSE, a seat of the family of Long, is situated about three miles to the eastward of Kingston St. Michael, and at nearly the same distance north from Chippenham. The manor here, at the time of the general survey, was held by the Bishop of Coutances. It afterwards came into the possession of the ancient family of Cerne, from whom the village received the appellation of Draycot-Cerne. Aubrey states that it was then held "by petit serjeantie, viz. by its owner being marshall at the coronation, which is the reason why the Cernes gave the Marshall lock for their cognizance." From the Cernes it passed, by marriage, to one of the Longs, of Wraxhall, the origin of whose family has been previously noticed.\* In the reign of Henry VII. Sir Thomas Long, of Draycot-Cerne, married Margery, daughter to Sir Edward Darell, of Littlecot, by whom he had issue three sons; Henry, Richard, and Thomas. Henry, the eldest, who was knighted† in his father's life-time, married, first, Iris, daughter to Sir George Hungerford, of Down-Amney; and, secondly, Eleanor, daughter of Robert Wrottesley, of Wrottesley, in the county of Stafford, who brought him a numerous family. Sir Walter Long, his son and successor, likewise espoused two wives; Mary, daughter of Sir Thomas Packington, of Aylesbury, in Buckinghamshire, Knt. by whom he had a son, John; and Catharine, daughter of Sir John Thynne, of Longleat, by whom he had two sons, Walter and Robert, and several daughters.

Of

\* Vide Ant. p. 494.

† The above honour he received from King Henry VIII. for his gallant charge at Terwayn, in France, in sight of that monarch, who likewise granted him a new crest, viz. "A lion's head erased, crowned, with a man's hand in the mouth."

Of these sons, John obtained Wraxhall, and Walter\* succeeded to the Draycot property, and being knighted, married the Lady Anne Ley, daughter to James, Earl of Marlborough, who bore him a son, James. Robert was secretary to King Charles II. during his exile; and at the Restoration was appointed auditor of the Exchequer, and raised to the dignity of a baronet, with remainder to his nephew, James, who accordingly became second baronet, on the demise of his uncle without issue, July 13, 1673. This gentleman had commanded a troop of horse for King Charles I. He married Dorothy, daughter of Sir Edward Leech, Knt. master in Chancery, and had by her one son, James, who died in his father's life-time, leaving three sons, Robert, Giles, and James.† Sir James died in February, 1691-2, when his grand-son,

\* Aubrey says that Sir Walter Long was very intimate with Sir Walter Raleigh, and was the first who brought the use of *tobacco* into the northern parts of Wiltshire. "In these days," adds the same antiquary, "they, (meaning the gentlemen,) had silver pipes. The ordinary sort made use of a walnut-shell, and a strawe. I have heard my grandfather Lyte say, one pipe was handed from man to man round the table. S. W. R. standing in a stand at Sir Ro. Poyntz Park, at Acton, took a pipe of tobacco, which made the ladies quitt it till he had donne. Within thes 35 years 'twas scandalous for a divine to take tobacco. It was sold then for its wayte in silver. I have heard some of our old yeoman neighbours say that when they went to Malmesbury or Chippenham they culled their biggest shillings to lay in the scales against the tobacco. Now the customs of it are the greatest his majesty hath." Letters, &c. from the Bodleian Library, Vol. III. p. 305.

† Aubrey's account of this Sir James Long is as follows:—"I should now be both orator and soldier to give this honoured friend of mine, a gentleman absolute in all numbers, his due character. Only son of Sr W. L. borne at South Wraxall, in Wilts. Westminster scholar, of Magd. Coll. Oxon. Went to France. Married Ao . . . a most elegant beaultie and witt da. of Sr E. L. 25 ætat. In the civill warres, colonel of horse in Sr F. Dodington's brigade. Good swordman; admirable extempore orator; great memorie, great historian and romaucer; great falconer, and for horsemanship. For insects exceedingly curious: and searching long since in natural things."

Oliver,

son, Robert, obtained the title; but only survived his accession to his new dignity four days. He was succeeded by his next brother, *Giles*, who likewise dying unmarried, the baronetcy and the estate devolved to James, the youngest brother, who served as a representative in several parliaments for the borough of Chippenham in the reign of Queen Anne, and was afterwards member for the county. He died March 15, 1728, leaving by his wife, Henrietta, daughter of Lord Brooke, of Warwick-Castle, two sons, the elder of whom, *Sir Robert*, became his successor. This gentleman represented the borough of Wotton Bassett in this county, in one parliament, and was one of the knights of the shire in another. He married, in May, 1735, Lady Emma Child, eldest daughter of Richard, Earl Tilney, in Ireland, by whom he had James-Tilney, and several other sons and daughters. Sir Robert deceased February 10, 1767, when he was succeeded by Sir James-Tilney, who was twice married, first to Harriet Bouverie, sister to William, first Earl of Radnor, who brought him no issue; and, secondly, to Catharine Windsor, eldest daughter of Other-Lewis, Earl of Plymouth, by whom he had one son and three daughters. Sir James died November 28, 1794, in the 58th year of his age, and was succeeded by his only son, also Sir James-Tilney Long, who dying during his minority, the estates devolved to his eldest sister, Miss Catharine Tilney Long, who married March 14, 1812, William-Wellesley Pole, Esq. now William-Pole-Tilney-Long Wellesley, M. P. for the borough of St. Ives. The lady's fortune, exclusive of the settlements made to her mother, sisters, and others, was  
stated

“ Oliver, Protector, hawking at Hounselowe-heath, & discoursing with him, fell in love with his company, and commanded him to weare his sword, and to meete him a hawkeing, wch made the strict cavaliers look on him with an evill eye. Scripsit—“ History and Causes of the Civil Warres.” Letters from the Bodleian, &c. Vol. III. p. 432

stated, at the time of her marriage, to have exceeded 80,000*l.* per annum.\*

The manor house of Draycot is a large, irregular structure, and has an extensive park, with pleasure-grounds attached to it. Contiguous to the house is the parish church, which is a small edifice, with a nave and a chancel. The latter is ancient, and is adorned with spears, helmets, swords, flags, and other military accoutrements. In the north wall are three small pointed arches. Here are several monuments and inscriptions. On the floor is a fiat stone inlaid with two figures in brass representing a knight in armour, and his lady. The inscription is preserved by *fat. Aubrey* in these terms :

“ Monsieur *Edward Cerne*, Chevalier et *Elyne* son ind<sup>a</sup> femme  
gisl icy de ses-quens almes dens p. sa pite eyt moi. w<sup>oi</sup> Amen.

Near the above stone is another, inlaid with the brass figure of a female, and inscribed to the memory of *Philippa de Cerne*, daughter of “ *Monsieur Edward Cerne*.”

Within a niche, formed by a pointed arch in the north wall is a statue of another knight in chain armour, traditionally ascribed to *Sir Philip Cerne*. The legs are crossed, and at the feet is a figure of a dog.

Close to the same wall stands an altar tomb, adorned with panelling and shields, and having a black marble slab on the top. *Aubrey* says that it commemorates *Sir Thomas Long*, whose son, *Sir Henry Long*, lies under a plain altar tomb opposite. Here is likewise a seat and four marble slabs to different members of the *Long* family; also a bust of *Sir Robert Long*, Baronet, executed by *Wilton*. It has been generally said that *John Aubrey* was buried at Draycot; but there is no tomb to his memory, nor entry in the register.

STANTON-ST.-QUINTIN is a village and parish situated to the north-

\* The *Longs*, according to *Aubrey*, were formerly Lords Lieutenants of Bradon Forest.

north-west of Draycot, and adjoining to Kington-St. Michael, on the north. The parish contains 42 houses, and 216 inhabitants. The Earl of Radnor is Lord of the Manor and patron of the living, which is a rectory. The Rev. Samuel Smith, the present rector, built an excellent parsonage house here in 1780.

The manor was anciently possessed by the family of St. Quintin, great barons in the north, (whence the latter part of its name) and passed from them by marriage to one of the Lords Dacres. According to the *Magna Britannia* it likewise, for some time, constituted part of the property of the Abbey of Cirencester; and was leased for nearly three centuries by the family of Powers. In Aubrey's manuscripts, in the Ashmolean Museum, at Oxford, the manor-house here is described as being well situated in, and surrounded by a very extensive park, \* in which he supposes deer to have been kept, as parts of the inclosing wall were then standing, higher than any park wall he had ever seen. "The hall," observes the same writer, "is above stairs with an ascent outwards, as at Bradstock abbey. In the hall and parlour are two old fashioned protuberant chimneys, which fashion is still used in France. The upper rooms are floored with oake, which perhaps was the generall fashion in ye old time, and brought in, no question, by the French. Here is a little building with leads and battlements, which was, I believe an oratory; by the dore is a well carved holy water niche and basin in stone. A brave mote here was yet remaining well stored with fish. An old fashioned gatehouse."†

This manor house was a very curious and singular edifice. In some of its features it resembled a monastic building: but yet we do not find in Tauner, Dugdale, or in any record, reference to the place. The vignette to this volume shews the tower referred to by Aubrey, also the east end of the house: in which the bay

\* The park, on the west side of the village, is now wholly occupied by woods, and consists of about 240 acres.

† In the hall, and on the church windows, were formerly several shields of arms.

land at an early period; and that the monastic system, though extremely rigid in ceremonial rights, both allowed and encouraged its members to cultivate certain branches of the arts and sciences. That of architecture was more immediately an object of attention than any other; particularly in its application to churches; and it is admitted by all persons who have carefully examined these sacred structures, that much science and genius are displayed in their design and construction. Among the early specimens Malmsbury church may be classed with those of large proportion, massive masonry, and curious decoration. When this edifice was erected it is not easy to determine; but from an examination of its architecture we may conclude that it happened about the period when the circular and pointed arch were both in fashion; most likely when the latter was just beginning to be adopted, and the former was declining. The prevailing style, in the arches, columns, and ornaments, is the *Anglo-Norman*, with the introduction of the pointed, or English. The latter is used on both sides of the nave, and in the vaulting of the two aisles, which have evidently been built at the same time as those portions where the circular style prevails. Hence we may rank this church among the productions of the twelfth century, and perhaps may not improperly attribute it to the era of Roger, Bishop of Sarum.

The present remains comprise only that part of the church, called the nave, with its aisles, parts of the transept, and a large porch on the southern side. In this fragment of a once spacious edifice are displayed three or four different styles, all of which appear to have gradually advanced in lightness of form and elegance of character. The perfect semi-circular arch, as the earliest example, is conspicuous in the western front, in the southern porch, in the original lower tier of windows round the aisles, and in the middle division of the nave. Some of these are plain and simple in their form and mouldings; others are ornamented with sculptured basso-relievo's; and some have a central mullion, with tracery, &c. The last mentioned feature is a peculiarity deserving

ing the attention of the architect and antiquary, and may perhaps be considered amongst the earliest, if not the first examples of the kind. The next variety of style is displayed in the intersecting arches, a series of which formed an ornamental facing round the lower part of the exterior wall of the church. This feature of ancient architecture appears to have been used only as a decoration; yet its columns, and architrave mouldings, with bases, and capitals, are generally designed with strict regard to symmetry and system. As each arch passed directly over the next column, and intersected its proper architrave, it there formed the pointed arch. On each side of the nave is a series of pointed arches, which spring from massive columns, and are finished with mouldings and dressings. Above these is a tier of broad, semi-circular arches, each of which embraces four others, with an open colonnade to the roof of the aisles: and over these is a series of long, narrow, pointed arch windows, with mullions and tracery. These are the prominent architectural features of the present building, which, whether considered as a whole, or examined in detail, furnishes many interesting examples.

William of Worcester, who travelled over several parts of England in the reign of Henry VI. visited Malmesbury, and has left us the following memoranda, relating to the dimensions of *some parts* of this Church. \*

“ Longitudo totius ecclesiæ monasterii Sancti Aldelmi de Malmesbery, cum choro continet 172 gressus meos.

Latitudo ejus continet 42 gressus.

Longitudo capellæ Beatæ Mariæ in Orientali continet 30 gressus.

Latitudo capellæ ejusdem continet 14 gressus.

Longitudo claustrum ex omni parte continet quodlibet claustrum 64 gressus.

Latitudo navis ecclesiæ principalis ultra alas continet 22 gressus.”

Such

\* Nasmyth. Itin. Symon. Simeon, et Will. de Worcester, p. 283. 8vo. 1798.

Such are the measurements of this ancient writer; but these afford us little information, and even that little becomes questionable. The chapel at the east end is said to be 30 gressus, or steps long, by 14 wide; which makes its breadth scarcely half its length.

The next account of this building is by Leland, who visited it in the time of Henry VIII., and who calls it "a right Magnificent thing; where were two Steples, one that had a mightie high *pyramis*, and felle daungerusly, in *hominum memoria*, and sins was not re-edified; it stode in the middle of the *Transeptum* of the Chirch, and was a Marke to al the Countre about, the other yet standith a greate square Toure at the West Ende of the Church." \* By this laconic information we are told that a central tower, with a lofty spire, was standing only a few years before Leland visited Malmsbury, and that a large square tower was then remaining. Both these are however destroyed, and their shapes and architectural characters are also swept away with them. Indeed so great has been the dilapidation of this building, that not above one sixth part of it now remains: and this small portion is gradually mouldering away by the operation of time, and the more destructive effects of wanton mischief, and reprehensible negligence.

After the monastery was dissolved by Henry VIII., and the nave of the abbey church was appropriated to parochial purposes, according to Leland, there was a "little Chirch joining to the South side of the *Transeptum* of that abby Chirch, where sum say *Joannes Scottus* the Great Clerk was slayne, about the Tyme of *Alfrede* King of *West Saxons*, of his own disciples thrusting and strikking hym with their Table Pointelles." At the same time the square tower at the west end was used as a dwelling-house: and there were two other churches in the Abbey church yard. † The Abbey church at the same period appears

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to

\* Leland's Itinerary, Vol. II. p. 25.

† The eastern end of one of these, with its spire, still remain, but are situated



to have undergone some alteration: the east and west ends being walled up, some windows enlarged, the area paved, &c.

On the southern side are displayed the great porch two tiers of windows, some flying buttresses with their pinnacles, and an ornamental, perforated balustrade, both on the summit of the walls of the nave and aisle. Round the lower part of the wall is a continued series of intersecting archivault mouldings, forming arcades, which must have been intended merely for ornament. They are continued along the western front, and also round the transepts. Immediately over them is a plain string moulding, and above that a range of round-headed windows, which being of enlarged dimensions, the architect has introduced a central mullion with tracery formed into trefoil mouldings. The upper windows are of the decorated English style, and were probably constructed about the time of Edward III. when the abbot was made a peer of the realm; for it appears that several alterations were then made in the church: and particularly the door-way communicating with the cloisters on the north side, the large window in the lower story, on the same side, and a lofty window at the west end, correspond with the prevailing style of that period. The flying buttresses, with the pinnacles, and the elegant fret-work balustrade, also appear to be of the same age, and are useful and beautiful appendages to both sides of the building. The buttress over the porch nearest the west end is dissimilar to the others: it was probably constructed stronger, as an additional stay or support to the great tower, which Leland describes to have been at the west end.

The western front is much mutilated, but its remains show that the whole, in its pristine state, must have been grand, fine, and impressive. The varied arcades, mouldings, sculpture, windows, and central door, must have given it a very rich and ornamented appearance: the workmanship is of excellent and substantial execution. One of the capitals, on the south side of the  
 the  
 ated on the south side of the abbey church, not to the west, as mentioned by Leland.

the door-way, is charged with a figure of Sagitarius, and it is likely that other zodiacal signs were represented in some of the oval compartments which extended round the arch. The running scrolls are beautiful in form, and nearly resemble some Grecian and Roman ornaments. When S. and N. Buck made their drawing, in 1732, this arch appears to have been perfect, though they have not defined the columns.

The central tower with its "pyramis," mentioned by Leland, was supported by four arches, two of which are still standing, and are peculiarly lofty and grand. The archivault does not spring immediately from the capitals, as is usual in the semi-circular arch, but the mouldings, after preserving their perpendicular lines for about six feet above the capitals, converge, and form an arch of the horse-shoe shape: i. e. rather flattened at the top. The arch-way on the north side is not so wide, by nearly ten feet, as that on the western side of the tower; consequently the latter formed a parallelogram. \*

The exterior and interior door-ways of the southern porch are elaborately ornamented with sculpture. The first displays eight enriched mouldings, which extend all round the arch, from base to base, and adorn the exterior porch. † Five of these are decorated with running trellis work, and interlacing diagonal strings, and the other three are covered with a profusion of sculptured figures in basso-relievo, inclosed within oval bands. The figures appear to represent various passages from the Old and New Testament: and though many of them are very distorted, and ill designed, yet, as specimens of Anglo-Norman sculpture, they are extremely curious. The other door-way, without columns, is also

2 R 3

decorated

\* The tower of St. John's church, at Devizes, Wiltshire, is of similar shape, and the two narrow sides are supported by pointed arches, though the regular Norman, or circular style prevails in all the remaining parts of the original building.

† In Hearne and Byrne's *Antiquities*, and in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, July 1802, by Mr. Carter, these mouldings are described as "columns," though there is neither shaft nor capital.

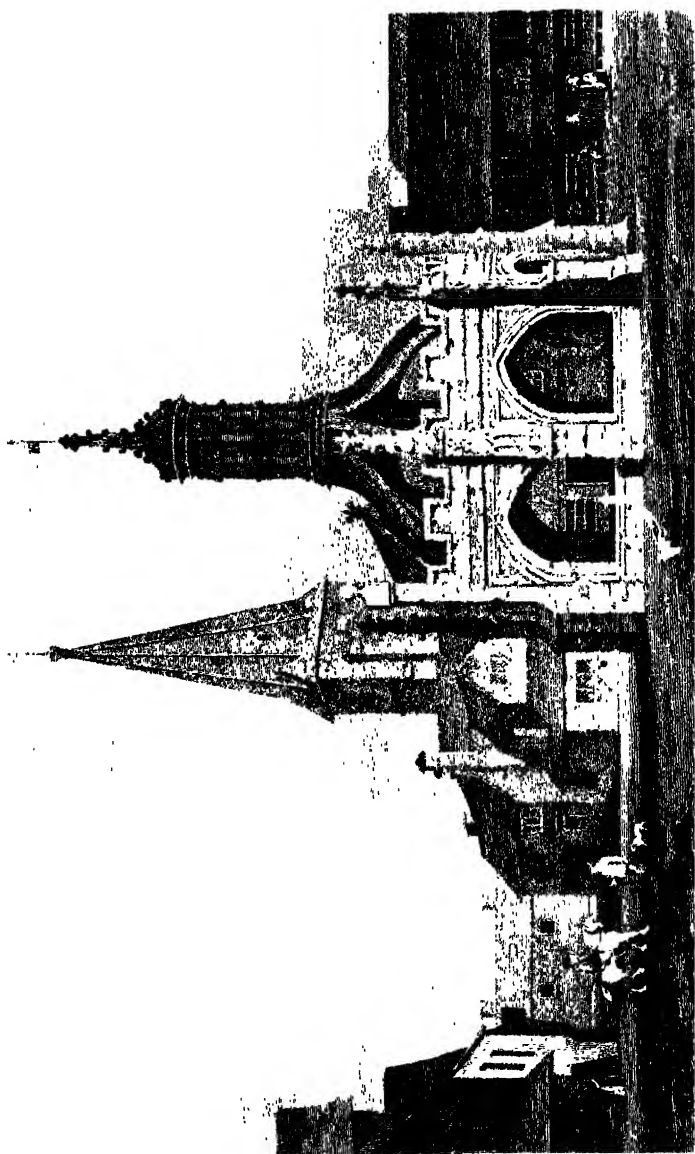
decorated with sculpture: beneath the arch is an impost, charged with a basso-relievo, which appears to represent the personified deity supported by two angels: on the right hand is a large piscina, let into the wall. Each side of the porch is decorated with an arcade, over which are twelve large figures in bold relief, six on each side, supposed to be intended for the apostles, with two figures flying over their heads.

In the nave the arch nearest to the east end is narrower than any of the others, and has a torus moulding of singular shape. Above is another tier of arches opening to the roof of the aisles. They are semi-circular, and each large arch inclose a series of four others: but one of the spaces is now walled up. The next range displays the windows of the upper story, which appears to have been raised about Edward the third's time, as already noticed \*. At the east end of the nave is an altar screen which appears to be composed of architectural fragments. On the south side of the nave, projecting from the wall of the second tier, is a stone seat, forming a sort of balcony, the original intention of which is not defined.

That this church formerly contained many monumental erections cannot be doubted, since history records the interment of several princes and distinguished prelates within its walls.—Among these the most eminent were King Athelstan, Maildolph and Aldhelm; but none of their tombs can now be traced. There is indeed a monument, in the south-eastern corner of the church, which is commonly ascribed to the Saxon monarch; but if really intended to commemorate him it must have been erected long after his death, and on a spot different from the place of his burial, which William of Malmshury states positively to have been under the high altar. This tomb supports an effigy in royal robes, said to resemble the figure of Athelstan on his famous seal. The tomb was opened some years ago, but no interment was discovered. In the same chapel, or inclosure, with  
this

\* The annexed print shews the south aisle, with part of the northern side of the nave, also one of the massive columns, &c.





this monument is a marble slab to "*Lady Dame Cyscely Marshall*, daughter of the Honourable Sir Owen Hopton, knight, late lieutnant of the Tower Royal; the faithful, modest, and loyal wife of Sir George Marshall, knight." She died April 23, 1625.

In the cemetery of the abbey-church are two epitaphs, one of which commemorates the melancholy fate of *Hannah Twynnoy*, a servant girl who was torn to pieces by a tiger belonging to an exhibition of wild beasts: and the other, *Dr. Abbia Qui*, a man of much eminence in his profession, who died in the year 1675. His epitaph, which is said to have been one of the early productions of Oldham the poet, is in these words:—

"He by whose charter thousands held their breath,  
Lies here, the captive of triumphant death;  
If drugs or matchless skill, could death reclaim,  
'Tis life had been immortal as his fame.

At distance to the north-east of the abbey is a building called *The Abbots-House*, from a belief that its lower division formed part of that structure, as it displays several pointed windows, ribbed arches, and "Gothic" decorations. This building is approached by a gateway, under a semi-circular arch, over which is sculptured a coat of arms, with fleur-de-lis on either side. Near the centre of the town is the *Market-Cross*, which appears to have been built in the reign of Henry VII. Leland describes it in these terms:—"There is a right, fair and costly piece of workmanship, in the market place, made all of stone and curiously vaulted for pourer market folk to stand dry when rayne cummeth. There be 8 great pillars, and 8 open arches; and the work is 8 square. One great pillar in the middle beareth up the vault. The men of the town made this piece of work in *hominum memoria*." The annexed print will serve to display its form, flying buttresses, and richly ornamented turret. The latter is of an octangular shape, with a small niche on each side filled with figures in basso-relievo; one of which represents

the crucifixion. This cross was lately repaired by the liberality of the Earl of Suffolk, and Lord Northwick\*.

Besides the above, there are several minor remains of antiquity in Malmesbury which are entitled to a cursory notice. On the south side of the abbey cemetery stand the remains of the church of St. Paul, of which the principal features are, the great east window and the steeple. The latter is lofty, and still contains the bells. The old vicarage-house is still in existence on the same side. In the western environs of the town, called Burnivale, is a building denominated the *Chapel-House*, and supposed to have been formerly the chapel of a nunnery, which tradition asserts to have anciently stood upon this spot.† This edifice exhibits the remains of two semicircular windows, and a small stone basin placed in a niche. The basin about ten inches wide, and very shallow, and is supported on an octangular pillar with a pedestal and capital, which have been ornamented with much curious sculpture, now obliterated. As some parts of the walls in the White Lion are of extraordinary thickness, and contain, near the entrance, a small lavatory, they are conjectured to be the remains of a hospitium belonging to the monastery. In the corporation almshouse is a curious ancient arch, the relic of an hospital dedicated to St. John of Jerusalem; and, at a little distance to the south, stands a private house, called *Burton-Hill Chapel*, still retaining some fragments of pointed windows, which seem to indicate its former appropriation to a religious institution. This opinion is strengthened by a passage in Leland's Itinerary, in these words: "Sum say that there was another nunnery toward the

\* "Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain," Vol. I. in which is a plan, a view of the turret, and two other views of the cross.

† "Sum hold opinion that there was sum time a nunnery where the hermitage now stondeth, in the dike of the toune, at the west ende of the old paroch church."—Leland's Itin. Vol. II. p. 27. The hermitage was a structure, now demolished, which had its name from being supposed to occupy the site of Meydulph's original cell.

the park a little without the town, longgong to thabbato, in the way to Chippenham." The workhouse likewise displays some remains of pillars of great antiquity; also two small pieces of sculpture, representing a calvary cross, and an angel, whence it has been inferred that, like the White Lion Inn, it was formerly a hospitium to the abbey. The gable end of an edifice near the abbey is said to be a moiety of the castle, but this is extremely doubtful. A well, however, yet exists, called the *Castle-Well*, which is very large, and of great depth, and displays much neatness in its construction and masonry. To the south of St. Mary Westport is an ancient arch, forming part of a door-way, and a window, which seem to be relics of a small chapel; and at the corner of a decayed street, formerly called Milk-street, stands a house, bearing the name of *St. Helen's*, having been erected on the site of a chapel dedicated to that saint. In the garden-wall is still preserved a Calvary cross. In the garden of a private house, east of the cross, is the upper part of an ancient *Font*, with curious emblematical sculpture on the sides.

In biography the town of Malmesbury boasts considerable distinction, being the birth-place of the following eminent writers: Oliver of Malmesbury, William of Malmesbury, Thomas Hobbes, and Mary Chandler, each of whom we shall notice separately in chronological order.

OLIVER OF MALMSBURY, who is also called Elmer, or Egelmer, was born within the precincts of the monastery about the beginning of the eleventh century, and became a monk in his native abbey. He applied himself principally to the study of mathematics, astrology, and practical mechanics; and is recorded to have written several treatises upon these subjects, but none of them have descended to our time. He was the first Englishman, and probably the first modern European, who dared the dangers of an ærial voyage. Having invented some wings, upon the principles of the parachute, he ascended a lofty tower, whence he took his flight, and passed through the air for the space of a  
 † furlong.



farlong, but owing to some accident, or from fear, he fell to the ground and broke both his thighs.\*

WILLIAM OF MALMSBURY, one of the most celebrated of our early English historians, was born towards the middle of the eleventh century. Bale and Pits state that his original name was "Somersetus;" and thence conclude that he was a native of Somersetshire. The historian of Malmesbury, however, thinks he was probably born in or near this town, and that he took the name of "Somersetus," from his father. Be this, however, as it may, he was certainly educated here, and became a monk in the abbey at an early period of life; and, in his more mature years, he held the double office of precentor and librarian, which he retained till his death, the exact period of which event is uncertain. Berkenhout, on the authority of the biography above-mentioned, fixes it in 1142; though had either of them taken the trouble to consult his works, they would have discovered that the second book of the "*Historiæ Novellæ*" brings the history of King Stephen down to 1144. He must therefore have lived at least to the beginning of that year, and we presume somewhat longer.

In his capacity of librarian having the command of many of manuscripts relating to the civil and ecclesiastical transactions of the kingdom, he wrote several books, comprehending the most material facts therein narrated, in an abridged form. These were intitled, "*De Gestis Regum Anglorum, Libri V.*" beginning with the arrival of the Saxons, and concluding with the death of Henry I. "*Historiæ Novellæ, Libri II.*" already mentioned, and "*De Gestis Pontificum Anglorum, Lib. IV.*" which comprises an account of the different bishoprics in England, with lists of bishops.† William likewise wrote a work, intitled "*De Vita the Aldhelmi,*"

\* Pits, de Illustribus Angliæ Scriptoribus an. 1060.—Fuller's Worthies, Wiltshire.

† The above treatises were published in 1601, by Henry Savile, in a folio

Aldhelmi," which is published in Wharton's *Anglia Sacra*; as well as in Gale's "Quindecim Scriptores;" and a treatise, "De Antiquitate Glessoburgensis Monasterii," printed in the latter collection, is also ascribed to him.

With the exception of the Life of Aldhelm, which was probably a juvenile production, and is at once florid in style and inferior in matter, the writings of this historian reflect the highest credit on his talents and discrimination. His Latin is so pure, that making allowances for the changes in phraseology, resulting from the difference of manners, customs, and ideas, it might almost have been admired in the Augustan age. As he quotes frequently from Virgil and from Lucan, it is probable that he was well versed in the writings of these celebrated poets. Hume says he quotes also from Livy, but we have not met with the passage. In ~~simplicity~~ perspicuity, accuracy, and impartiality, he has few competitors, and certainly no superior among the monkish writers.

THOMAS HOBBS, a celebrated philosophical and political writer of the seventeenth century, was a native of Westport juxta Malmsbury, and first drew breath on the 5th of April, in the year 1588. His father, whom Aubrey terms "one of the ignorant St. John's of Queen Elizabeth's days," was vicar of Charlton and Westport; but our philosopher was principally brought up and educated at the expense of his uncle, Francis, a wealthy glover, and some time chief magistrate of the borough. Having acquired a considerable knowledge of Greek and Latin under Mr. Robert Latimer, afterwards minister at Malmesbury and of Leigh Delamore, he went, in 1603, to Magdalen Hall, Oxford where he pursued his studies with avidity, and took the degree of B. A. in 1607. The following year he quitted the University, and became tutor to William, Lord Cavendish, afterwards Earl of Devonshire, with whom he made the tour of France and Italy in 1610, an opportunity for the acquisition of knowledge,

folio volume, which we have had frequent occasion to quote, under the title of "Rerum Anglicarum Scriptores post Bedam precipui, ex vetustissimis Codicibus Manuscriptis, nunc primum in Lucem editi." &c

knowledge, which he assiduously improved. After his return he translated and published *Thucydides*, as he himself informs us, from an honest desire to prevent intestine troubles, by shewing, in the history of the Peloponnesian war, their fatal consequences. While this work was preparing for the press, the old Earl of Devonshire died; and, in two years after him, his son, and successor, to whom Hobbes had been tutor and secretary for upwards of twenty years. These losses severely affected our author, and induced him again to travel with Sir Gervase Clifton's son, in 1631; but he was recalled by the Countess of Devonshire, widow of his late pupil, to take charge of the young Earl, with whom he made the tour of Europe a third time in 1637. In 1641, perceiving a rupture between the King and the Parliament to be inevitable, he withdrew to Paris, where he became intimate with the noted Des Cartes, and there wrote a work intituled "*Elementa Philosophica de Cive*," the principles of which were afterwards more fully illustrated in his "*Leviathan*." As his opinions were contrary to the commonly received notions on morals, politics, and religion, and were advanced with great boldness, they startled the divines of every persuasion, and excited their indignation so strongly against him, that he was compelled to fly from Paris and escape to England. Here he found a welcome asylum in the Devonshire family; whose protection of so great a man deserves the gratitude of every philosopher. With them he continued to reside till his death, which happened in 1679, at the advanced age of ninety-two, when he was buried in the church of Hault Hucknall, in the county of Derby.\*

Hobbes was a great favourite with Charles II. and was highly respected by many of the most distinguished personages of his age. Like the illustrious Hume, his private character was correct, and virtuous. In public he had many enemies, because many were interested to resist his opinions; but all who knew

\* Aubrey's *Life of Hobbes*, in *Letters from the Bodleian Library*: and in Vol. III. of *General Biography*. By John Aikin, M. D. &c. The former of these works contains many curious anecdotes of Hobbes' private life.

knew him acknowledged the integrity of his life, and the goodness of his heart. That his system of ethics and of political morality, is far from perfection will be readily admitted; but every man who reads his works with an unbiassed mind will perceive that they are fraught with the tenets of a sound and rational philosophy. That they were censured in Parliament, ordered to be burnt by convocation, and opposed by the English Universities, are not arguments against their truth. The writings of Galileo met with a similar fate. The doctrines of the earth's rotundity, and of her motion round the sun, were denounced by the clergy as heretical, and were not only rejected, but voted to be ~~burnt~~, by nearly all the collegiate establishments in Europe.

Opinions of Hobbes coincide in many points with those of the best writers. Even Locke has not disdained to borrow from his views of the origin and association of our ideas; and me, Hartley, and Priestley, are certainly indebted to him for the elements of their respective metaphysical systems. The dogmatical style in which he wrote, and the pushing of some of his principles beyond their proper limits, added to the simple circumstance of his having been almost the first who attacked the prevailing notions respecting the foundations of religion and morals, are the chief causes which have operated to bring Hobbes's writings into disrepute. His boldness created an alarm which few have been able to conquer, and which it is the interest of the prejudiced to keep up. Thousands reprobate his opinions, but not one in a hundred has actually looked into his works. The general judgment of him is formed upon the evidence of tradition only; and hence the Tory condemns him as an enemy to royalty, and the Whig as a supporter of despotism; one calls him a Pyrrhonian; another a Materialist; a third, a Deist; a fourth an Atheist; in short, he is every thing but a Christian; yet not a sentence does he utter against our holy religion. On the contrary, many of his philosophical maxims are favourable to her doctrines.

Besides the works above noticed, Hobbes wrote a variety of others.

others on different subjects. He made many useful discoveries; and proposed several ingenious theories in mechanical philosophy. Mr. Hazlitt, who lately gave a course of Lectures on Metaphysics in London, pronounced a high, and at the same time a very discriminating panegyric on the philosopher of Malmsbury.

MARY CHANDLER was born in this town in the year 1687. She was the daughter of Henry Chandler, a Dissenting minister, and being bred to the business of a milliner, kept a shop in Bath. From her childhood she evinced a predilection for poetical composition; to which she was led by the perusal of Herbert's poems at a very early age. In her more mature years she applied herself to the study of the best ancient and modern poets; wrote several pieces, one of which, upon the Bath, passed through several editions, and was honoured with the eulogium of Pope, who paid the authoress a personal visit. She was also distinguished by the friendship of the Countess of Hertford, and the celebrated Mrs. Rowe. Though pressed to marriage by a gentleman of large fortune, she declined changing her condition, and consequently remained single during her whole life, which terminated September 11, 1745, after an illness of two years. Mrs. Chandler was sister to Dr. Samuel Chandler, a native of Hungerford, who, among other literary productions, was author of "*A Critical History of the Life of David.*" 2 vols. 8vo. \*

At the distance of a mile to the south of Malmsbury, on a rising ground called *Cum's Hill*, are two small earthen work inclosures, commonly attributed to the Romans, but more probably of British origin. The largest of them is perfectly square in form, each side measuring about 120 feet. The other is of an oblong figure, about the same dimensions in length, but scarcely a hundred feet in breadth. In an adjoining field is a third inclosure of a circular shape, which is supposed to have been the site of a Saxon fortress. This field is called "*Burnt Ground,*" and according to tradition, was the scene of an action between

\* Biographia Britannica, Vol. III. p 436





between King Stephen and the Empress Maud, under the command of her son Henry of Anjou, at the time the latter was besieging the Castle of Malmsbury.

West of the town is a large tract of ground called MALMSBURY COMMON, which presents a deplorable scene of waste and desolation. It is nearly covered with furze, or gorse, and from the want of proper drainage, is almost unpassable for horses or carriages in wet weather. This common belongs to the Borough, and each freeman is privileged to turn a horse, or cow into it, and cut the furze for fuel. A high part of the ground, nearest to the town, is called *Hundred-Hill*, and is partly inclosed. Each landholder of the borough has one acre of this district; and each of the common council of the borough, is entitled to a plot of about two or three acres. To every one of the capital burgesses is assigned a field of from six to fifteen acres. These inclosed pieces of land are at once useful to the community, and valuable to the possessors; and shew what might be effected on the waste common by management and skill.

CHARLTON PARK, the seat of the Earl of Suffolk, is situated in the parish whence it derives its name, at the distance of a mile to the north of Malmsbury. In ancient times the manor belonged to the Abbey of Malmsbury, and afterwards to the family of Knevit, from which it passed by the marriage of Thomas, first Earl of Suffolk with Elizabeth, daughter and coheiress to Sir Henry Knevit. The house is a large, magnificent freestone structure, in the form of an oblong square, with four dissimilar fronts, of which the western one is said to have been designed by Inigo Jones.\* The opposite, or eastern front, with the greater part of the building, however, is of a much later date, having been erected during the life-time of Henry, Earl of Suffolk and Berks, who was secretary of state for the northern department, and died in

\* A view of this front, in perspective is given in the Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain.



in 1779. The interior was formerly occupied by a quadrangular court, but this was covered in, and converted into a saloon by the present Earl, but it is unfinished. On the west side is a fine gallery, which extends the whole length of the house. Its ceiling is covered with stuccoed ornaments. Some curious and interesting portraits are preserved in this noble mansion, and also a few pictures of merit; but Lord Suffolk's chief collection is deposited in his town house. The following portraits are entitled to notice:—

*Thomas, third Lord Bruce, and first Earl of Elgin.* By Vandyck; also his lady by the same artist. *Charles II.* By Sir Peter Lely. A female Head between a rose and fleur de lis, each, crowned: on the breast a pelican; the right hand elevated and holding a cross of jewels, with chains of pearl, and having a ring on the thumb.

*Charles I.:* a whole length, by Vandyck: *Lady Mary Davis*, mistress to Charles II., and the rival of Nell Gwynn. This lady is said to have been a native of the village of Charlton. *Richard Sackville*, Earl of Dorset; *Sir Edward Sackville*, his brother, and eventually his successor. This nobleman was distinguished for his wit, courage, and elegant accomplishments. He was engaged in a duel with, and killed Edward, Lord Bruce of Kinloss, his intimate friend. An interesting account of the meeting is given in the *Guardian* (Vol. II. No. 133.) He was afterwards ambassador at the court of France from Charles I., and led the troops, who recovered the royal standard, at the battle of Edgehill.

*Thomas, Earl of Suffolk*, a very fine half-length \*. *William*

\* His lordship was the founder of Audley End, near Saffron Waldon, one of the most magnificent mansions in the kingdom. (See *Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain*, for ground plan and views.) In public life he distinguished himself in suppressing the rebellion of the noted Earl of Essex, whose abandoned wife was one of his daughters. He rose to the dignity of Lord High Treasurer, and was instrumental in the discovery of the gunpowder plot; but was at length dismissed from the king's service, and fined for accepting bribes and embezzling the public property.

*William Howard*, Earl of Berkshire. *Elizabeth Cecil*, first Countess of Berkshire. *Earl of Essex*, a whole length, with brown gloves, and holding his hat and ribbon in his right hand. His Countess in blue satin, flurting her fan. *Henry Bowes*, Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire, with a rough red beaver; a hunting scene in the distance. *Sir Jerome Bowes*, ambassador from Queen Elizabeth to the Czar of Muscovy, in 1583. *Admiral Drake* in armour. *Elizabeth*, Countess of Exeter, leaning on a chair shaped like an ancient Curule chair, and holding in her hand a laced handkerchief.

BROKENBOROUGH is a small village, situated about two miles to the north-west of Malmsbury, from which town a causeway extends nearly the whole distance. This place, called by the Saxons *Caerdurberge*, is said to have been the site of a country residence belonging to one of the Saxon monarchs. It is also mentioned as the site of a Roman villa, and some fragments of tessellated pavement and foundations of buildings have been lately discovered here. The Fosse road passes through the parish, one extremity of which is occupied by a division of the singular black earth kpoll already mentioned. The lordship of this place 14 Edward III. was possessed by John, Lord Molins.

At the south western extremity of this parish is the hamlet of BREMILHAM, or COWAGE, consisting of a small church, and a farm-house. The living here is a rectory formerly rated at 20*l.* a year, but now worth above 100*l.* For this stipend the incumbent performs divine service about twelve times annually, in a building called the church. As the ecclesiastical and landed property here are possessed by different persons, the former by Lady Northwick, and the latter by Robert Holford, Esq. much inconvenience is thereby occasioned to the tenant of the farm.

LONG NEWTON, or NEWNTON, situated about two miles north west from Brokenborough, is a village of great antiquity, being

mentioned under the appellation Newantune, above a century previous to the Norman Conquest. According to the author of *Magna Britannia* it derived its name from having been built in place of an older town, or village, which had been destroyed by fire. This statement, however, is doubtful, though some degree of plausibility is given to it by the fact that foundations of houses have been occasionally discovered on digging into the supposed ancient site. Newton was certainly a place of some importance in the reign of King Athelstan, who is said to have granted to the poor a large tract of ground, adjoining the town, for commonage, in reward for the assistance the inhabitants had afforded him, in quelling an insurrection of his Danish subjects. To this gift the monks of Malmsbury added a piece of ground, to build a house upon, as a residence for the Hayward; and also appointed certain ceremonies to be observed annually on Trinity Sunday, in commemoration of their own, and King Athelstan's benevolence. These *ceremonies* are mentioned by Aubrey, and appear to have been curious and extraordinary. On the morning of the anniversary, a body of the commoners came in procession to the Haywards House, and after striking the door thrice were admitted. A bell belonging to the house then rung to assemble the people to offer up thanksgivings to God for inclining the hearts of Athelstan, and his queen to bestow the common, and for the influence exerted by his Holy Spirit on the minds of subsequent benefactors \*. As soon as prayers were ended, a young maid of Long Newton, with a garland of flowers, and a young man (a bachelor of a different parish) entered the house, and each kissed the other three times in name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. This done, the youth took the garland from the maid's head, and gave her in return a small piece of money. In the evening the parishioners commonly sent meat for a supper,

for

\* The introductory, and also the concluding prayer, was in these terms :  
 " Peace, good men, peace. This is the house of charity, and the house of grace : Christ Jesus be with us this day, and for ever more. Amen."

for which they had previously prepared a barrel of ale at their joint expense, and having regaled themselves heartily, gave what was left to the poor.

North from Long Newton is the parish of ASHLEY, which is bounded on the east by the Fosse Road, and on the other parts by the county of Gloucester. According to the population returns of 1811, it contains 17 houses, and 65 inhabitants. At the time of the Conquest, this manor was called *Esselei*, and according to Domesday book, constituted part of the property of "Durandus de Gloucestre." It was afterwards possessed by a family which took the name of *Esselei*; and by the marriage of Mabel, heiress of Walter de *Esselei*, with Richard Revel, it passed to the latter. This Revel having died without issue male, his daughter, Sabina, wife of Henry de Ortrai, or Orti, succeeded to his estates, and transmitted them to her son, Henry, who obtained a charter for a weekly market, and an annual fair at this place; but both privileges are discontinued. Henry had for his successor a son named John, one of whose daughters carried it by marriage to the Hungerfords, from whom it descended to the family of Gorges.

Near the village of Ashley is a large and respectable mansion, consisting of a centre and two semicircular projecting wings, which have evidently been erected at various dates, but chiefly in the 16th century. This house was for some years the residence of Sir Onesimus Paul, Bart. The church, which adjoins the attached garden, is an ancient building, divided into a nave, chancel, and two aisles, with a square embattled tower at the west end. The arch separating the nave from the chancel is circular, as is likewise that forming the south porch, but those of the aisles are pointed, and rest upon slender, clustered pillars with massy capitals of foliage. The font appears to be very ancient, being large, round, and massive, and very rude in its workmanship. This church was the burying-place of several members of the family of Gorges; one of whom is commemorated by a mural tablet,

tablet, placed in a kind of recess in one of the side ailes, and inscribed thus :

*" Antient Ins.*

" Near this place lieth the body of **FERDINANDO GORGES**, late of Westminster, Esq. some time governor of the province of Marine, in New England : he was born at Loftes, in Essex, grandson and heir to Sir Ferdinando Gorges, of Ashton Phillips, in the county of Somerset, Knight. He married Mary, the eldest daughter of Thomas Archdale, of Locks, near C. Wycomb, in the county of Bucks, Esq. They were very eminent examples of virtue and integrity, happy in their mutual affections ; and had many children, of whom only two survived their tender and indulgent parents. He was charitable and patient, courteous and beneficent, zealous and constant to the church, and a great admirer of learning. He is interred in the same grave in which Sir Theobald Gorges \* was buried. Anno Dom. 1647.

**CRUDWELL** is a village and parish situated to the north-east of Long-Newton, at the distance of four miles north from Malmsbury. The manor was one of those given by King Ethelwulph to the monks of Malmsbury. After the Dissolution of the abbey, it became the property of the Crown, and was granted by King Henry VIII. to the family of Baynton, from which it passed to Jolin, Lord Lucas, of Sheufield, who distinguished himself in the royal cause, during the Grand Rebellion, and whose daughter and heir, Mary, Countess of Kent, was created Baioness Lucas of Crudwell, in her own right, May 7th, 1663, it being declared  
at

\* Sir *Theobald Gorges* was son to Sir Thomas Gorges of Longford Castle, by Helena, relict of William Parr, Marquis of Northampton ; brother to Sir Edward Gorges, who was created a baron, 18 James I. ; and father to Richard, Lord Gorges, who dying without issue, the title became extinct. Sir Theobald married Anne, daughter of Sir Henry Poole, Knight, of Saper-ton, in Gloucestershire, by Anne, daughter of Sir William Broughton, of Broad Hinton, Wiltshire.

at the same time in the patent, " that her son and heir by the Earl of Kent, and all other the sons and heirs descended from her, of his successors, Earls of Kent, should bear the title of Lord Lucas of Crudwell; and in default of such issue male, that the said title should not be suspended, but enjoyed by such of the daughters and coheirs, if any such shall be, as other indivisible inheritances, by the common law of this land, are usually possessed by." \*

Mary, the first baroness, was succeeded in the Barony of Crudwell, by her son Henry, Duke of Kent, who died without issue male, June 5, 1740. when the titles of Marchioness Grey †, and Baroness Lucas, devolved to his grand-daughter, Lady Jemima Campbell, daughter of John Campbell, Earl of Breadalbane, by Lady Amabel Grey, the duke's eldest daughter, who died before him. The Marchioness Grey dying without male issue, January 10th 1797, the marquissate became extinct, but the barony descended to her eldest daughter, Amabella-Hume Campbell widow of Lord Hume of Berwick, and present Baroness Lucas of Crudwell, who was born January 22, 1751. Her ladyship having no children, her nephew, Lord Grantham is presumptive heir to her title and estates.

The parish of Crudwell is bounded on the western side by the Fosse Road, which divides it from the parish of Ashley. According to the Parliamentary returns of 1811, it contains 65 houses, and 317 inhabitants. Of the houses the greater part lie scattered in the vicinity of the church, which is the only building in the parish meriting the notice of the topographer. This structure is large and handsome, consisting of a nave, chancel, two aisles, and a low square tower, which rises at the west end,

2 S 3

and

\* Collin's Peerage of England. By Sir Egerton Brydges, Vol. VII.

† The Duke of Kent had sometime before his death been created Marquis Grey, with remainder to the heirs male of his body; and in default of such issue the title of Marchioness Grey, (not as Sir Egerton Brydges says Marchioness of Kent) was to descend to his grand-daughter, with remainder to her heirs male. Collin's Peerage of England, Vol. II. 4th Edit.

and is surmounted by angular pinnacles, and a quater-foil parapet. The whole is built of stone, but its parts are of different dates of erection, from the twelfth century downwards. On one side of the nave the pillars are low, round, and massive, and support arches, obtusely pointed. On the opposite side the pillars are longer, and more slender, and the arches are more pointed. The roof is constructed of wood, and from the remains, still exhibited in the two compartments nearest the chancel, appears to have been formerly ornamented with rich pierced work. The rafters rest upon stone corbels, representing human faces. Some of the windows are pointed; but several of them are square. In those of the latter kind are a variety of representations in stained glass. One at the east end contains a display of the seven Sacraments in six compartments, but two of these are much mutilated. In several of the pews are remains of very rich carved work, in wood. Opposite to the clerk's desk, on a pew door, are carved the royal arms of England, with the griffin and greyhound as supporters, the rose and thistle appearing in the corners above. The font, which is placed under the tower, consists of an octagonal basin, fixed upon a column of similar shape, which rises from a circular pedestal. The monumental erections here are few, and uninteresting.

In this village is a freeschool founded by John, Lord Lucas, who endowed the same with a considerable estate for the maintenance of a master.

Within the parish of Crudwell is the tything of East-Court, or Escot, the whole of which belongs to Joseph Pitt, Esq. M.P. Within its boundaries stands EASTCOURT-HOUSE, a respectable old mansion, formerly the property of the Earle family, some of whose members were knighted, and gave considerable sums for the benefit of the poor, both of this parish, and of *Hankerton*, which last, with the tything of Cloatly, contains, according to the late population returns, 77 houses, and 305 inhabitants. The church is an ancient building, divided into nave, chancel, and a north and side aisle, with a square tower  
at

At the west end, supported by angular buttresses, two of which are ornamented by niches. In the chancel are four round arches springing from short circular columns; but in the nave the arches are pointed, and the pillars are more slender. The south porch is formed by an obtusely pointed arch. Here are several monuments in memory of different branches of the Earle family: one of them is inscribed thus:

" Gyles Earle of Estcourt, died Aug. 20, 1758, aged 80. He married Elisabeth, daughter of Sir William Rawlinson, Knt. \* and had Eleanor, and William Rawlinson, who died 1771, aged 72, and was buried near his sister in the vault of his grandfather, Sir William, at Hendon, Middlesex. He married Susan, daughter of William White of Somerford, Wilts; and had four children, Gyles, Eleanor, Elisabeth, and Susan, buried at Hendon. Erected by his widow. 1771."

OAKSEY is a small parish, which adjoins Crudwell on the north-east, and according to the population returns of 1811, contains 72 houses, and 372 inhabitants. The church, part of which is a building of high antiquity, consists of a nave, with two side aisles, and a chaucel, divided from each other by a massive, circular arch, sufficiently indicative of its Anglo-Norman origin. The arches separating the aisles from the nave, and also those in the windows are obtusely pointed; three of the former rest upon round pillars. As at Crudwell one of the windows displays fragments of stained glass, representing the seven sacraments, and several of the pews are ornamented with carved work. On one is the head of a man, with his tongue projecting out of his mouth; and on another is a shield, with an inscription carved in relief, which appears to be very old. A representation

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\* Sir William Rawlinson was serjeant at law, and one of the commissioners of the Great Seal in the early part of the reign of Queen Anne. He died in 1703. See Lysons's " Environs of London," Vol. III. p. 3. Edit. 1795.



tion of the characters may be seen in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for March 1806, pl. II. fig. 1. In the chancel are two marble slabs, commemorating *Robert Dalton*, A. M. and *Jeremiah Hewer*, L. L. B. both rectors of this parish. The font is square, and is fixed on a circular shaft.

In a field, south from the church, is a square area inclosed by a deep moat and embankment, and having a large mount at its north-eastern angle. Exterior to this, are several other square inclosures, formed by slighter banks; and at some distance, another artificial mount, rises at the northern extremity of the field.

The manor of Oaksey about ten years ago belonged to Mr. Westley, an army taylor, who left it, with the adjoining manor of Kemble, to his two daughters, coheirresses, the elder of whom married Mr. Andrews, and the younger Mr. Cox.

MINTY, MINETY, or MINTY, is a large parish, principally situated in a detached portion of the hundred of Crowthorne and Minety, which belong politically to the county of Gloucester, though completely environed by Wiltshire. The church, with the adjoining vicaridge house, and a range of buildings called Wiltshire Row, however, are attached to the hundred of Malnsbury, and therefore are properly entitled to notice in this place. The church consists of a nave, two aisles, and a chancel. The arches of the nave are pointed, and appear to belong to the era of the English style, but the other parts of the edifice are of later date. At one extremity of the south aisle is the square base of a cross with a round socket; and in the wall near it is a shallow piscina. The font and its supporting shaft are octagonal in their shape.

This church contains several monumental erections and brasses in honour of different persons. In the chancel is a marble tablet inscribed to the memory of "*Charles Pleydell, of Minty, the younger son of Charles Pleydell, of Midgehall, Wilts,*" who died in 1704, aged seventy-six; and of his "*wife Arabella, youngest daughter*"

daughter of Robert Lovell, of Lyscomb, Bucks," who died 1701, aged seventy-two. In the north aisle is a pew, with a carved screen, and within it, against the north wall, is a brass commemorating *Nicolas Powlett*, and others of the same family, who appears, from the arms, to have been connected with the family of the Hungerfords.

According to Anthony Wood, the celebrated Admiral Sir William Penn was a native of Minety, where his father certainly possessed property, and resided during many years, but the epitaph upon the admiral's monument in Redcliffe church, Bristol, states that he was born in that city in 1621, and this we are assured by one of his descendants exhibits a correct outline of his career through life\*.

**BRADON-FOREST.** A large tract of country, lying to the south and south-east of Minto, is still distinguished by the name of Bradon Forest, though it is now almost entirely denuded of trees, and a great part of it is inclosed for cultivation. This district was anciently called *Bredon Wood*, and by some of the old writers is termed *Brithendunc*. By whom it was constituted a forest is uncertain, but it is mentioned as such early in the reign of Henry IV. It then extended many miles beyond its present nominal limits, and seems to have been considered as an important trust, if a judgment may be formed on that point, from the rank and dignity of its keepers, one of whom was Edmund de Langley, Earl of Cambridge, and Duke of York. Brompton tells us that Æthelwald put to military execution all the inhabitants of this tract in 905, when he entered Wiltshire at the head of an army of Danes, whom he had solicited to assist him in asserting his pretensions to the throne of Wessex, then filled by King Edward the elder. For some further remarks relative to Bradon-Forest, *vide ante*, p. 56.

On Charlton common, which is comprehended within the limits  
of

\* See History, &c. of Redcliffe Church, by J. Britton, F. S. A.

of the forest is Bradon Pond, the largest sheet of stagnant water in the whole county of Wilts. It is of an irregular form, extending about three quarters of a mile in length, and from a quarter to half a mile in breadth.

DANTSEY, or DAUNTSEY, is a large parish, situated in the hundred of Malmsbury, and at the distance of about five miles south-east from the town of that name. At the time of the Conquest it was called Dantescei, and constituted part of the possessions of Malmsbury Abbey, but seems to have been alienated from the monks soon afterwards, as it is mentioned among the estates of William de Dantescei \*, high sheriff of this county, in the reign of Henry II. In this family it continued till the time of Henry IV. when the then proprietor, John Dantsey, sold it to a gentleman named Easterling, or Straddling, one of whose descendants conveyed it by marriage to the family of Danvers. Upon the attainder of Sir John Danvers, it was given by Charles II. to his brother James, then Duke of York, whose second son, of the same name, was created Baron of Dantsey. After the Revolution, it continued part of the royal domains, till bestowed by Queen Anne on Charles Mordaunt, Earl of Peterborough and Monmouth, so distinguished for his campaigns in Spain.

Dantsey parish, according to the population returns of 1811, contains forty-nine houses, and 307 inhabitants. It is of considerable extent, but not more than a fourth part of it is in a state of arable cultivation, the remainder being in commonage, and uninclosed. The houses are so much scattered, and so few in number, that, properly speaking, there is no village. There is, however, a row of buildings characterized by the appellation of Dantsey-Place, which may be considered as such, because situated in the immediate vicinity of the church. The last is an ancient structure, consisting of a nave, two side aisles, and a chancel, with a square tower of later erection, at the west end.

The

\* One of this family, the Rev. John Dantsey, now resides at Agecroft-Hall, near Manchester.

The tower is ornamented on the west front with the Peterborough arms, sculptured in bold relief, and under them is an inscription, stating that it was begun to be built April 21, 1630. Several of the windows still contain fragments of painted glass, displaying a variety of figures; but these are so much mutilated, that it is difficult to ascertain whom they were designed to represent.— Under one may be read this sentence—"Sancta Anna ora pro nobis;" and, under another, "Sancta Dei genetrix ora pro nobis, 1525." But what renders this church chiefly remarkable, is the circumstance of its having been the place of sepulchre of some person of the *Danvers* family, whose tombs still ornament the chancel.

*Sir John Danvers*, who married the sister and coheir of Sir Edward Stradling, and thereby obtained the manor of Dantsey, is commemorated by a large marble monument, bearing the date 1525, and the following imperfect sentence: "I pray you of your cherite in the worship of the Trinity for an"—the remainder has been obliterated, apparently by some cutting instrument. This Sir John Danvers was son to Robert Danvers, Esq. of Culworth, in the county of Northampton. By his lady he had two sons, the eldest of whom, Thomas, married Anne, daughter of Sir William Courtney, and seated himself at Dantsey. He was father to Sir John Danvers, who was knighted by Henry VII. upon the marriage of Prince Arthur, and who took to wife Lady Elizabeth,\* daughter and coheir of John, Lord Latimer, and had by her three sons, Charles, Henry, and John, and seven daughters. Of the sons, Charles, the eldest, was beheaded, for being accessory to the rebellion of the Earl of Essex;† Henry, of whom presently, became Earl of Danby; and John,

\* This lady was buried in the church of Stowe Nine Churches, in Northamptonshire, where a noble monument by N. Stone, was erected to her memory.—See Beauties of England, Vol. XI. Northamptonshire.

† In Aubrey's Lives of Eminent Men, is the following anecdote of this gentleman.—"Sir Charles advised the Earle of Essex either to treat with

John, joining in the views of the Parliament, sat in judgment on Charles I. and was one of those who signed the warrant for his execution, on which account his estates were confiscated after the Restoration, in 1661.

*Henry Danvers, Earl of Danby*, has a superb marble monument near that of his great grandfather, with two long inscriptions thereon, the latter of which was written by G. Herbert. They are in these words:

Here lyeth the body of HENRY DANVERS, second son of Sir John Danvers, Knt. and Dame Elizabeth, daughter and coheir to Nevill, Lord Latimer. He was born at Dantsey, in the county of Wilts, Jan.\* Anno Domini 1573, being bred up partly in the Low Country wars under Maurice, Earl of Nassau, afterwards Prince of Orange, and in many other military actions, both by sea and land. He was made a captain in the wars of France, and there knighted for his good service, under Henry the Fourth, the then French king. He was employed as Lieutenant of the Horse, and Serjeant-Major of the whole army in Ireland, under Robert, Earl of Essex, and Charles, Baron of Mountjoy, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. By King James the First, he was made Baron of Dantsey, and Peer of this Realm, as also Lord President of Munster, and Governour of Guernsey. By King Charles the First, he was created Earl of Danby, made of his Privy Councill, and Knight of the most noble order of the Garter. In his latter time, by reason of his imperfect health, considerably declining more active employments, full of honours, wounds, and days, he died Anno Domini 1643. *Laus Deo.*

“ Sacred

the queen's hostages \* \* \* \* whom Sir Ferdinando Gorges did let go, or make his way through the gate at Essex-house, and then to haste away to Highgate, and so to Northumberland, (the Earl of Northumberland married his sister,) and from thence to the King of Scots, and there they might make their peace; if not, the queen was old and could not live long. But the Earl followed not his advice, and so they both lost their heads on Tower-hill.”—Letters from the Bodleian Library, &c.—Vol. II. p. 344.

• In Chalmers's Biographical Dictionary he is stated to have been born June 28.

" Sacred marble, safely keepe  
 His dust, who under thee must sleepe,  
 Until the graves again restore  
 Their dead, and time shall be no more ;  
 Mean while, if he, wch all things weares,  
 Do ruin thee; or if thy teares  
 Are shed for him, dissolve thy frame,  
 'Thou art requited ; for his fame,  
 His vertues, and his worth shall be  
 Another monument of thee."

Besides the incidents of his lordship's life recorded in the above epitaph, there are others which are equally deserving of notice. Being a man of extensive learning, he perceived its utility, and universally promoted the cause of literature in all its branches by his influence and purse. Observing that the University of Oxford was destitute of the opportunities requisite for the study of botany, he purchased a tract of ground situated on the bank of the river Cherwell, close to that city, and having surrounded it by a lofty wall, and adorned it with a rusticated gate way,\* gave it to the University for a botanic garden, assigning at the same time the impropriate rectory of Kirkdale in Yorkshire, for the support of a gardener. His lordship likewise founded an alms-house and free-school in his native parish, both of which are still in existence. According to the authors of the *Biographia Britannica*, he fell under the displeasure of the court sometime previous to his death, which occurred at Cornbury-Park, in Oxfordshire, in the seventy-sixth year of his age.†

CHRISTIAN,

\* The above-mentioned ground, with its wall and gateway, cost the noble donor above six thousand pounds. The wall is fourteen feet high above the surface, which had been previously elevated, to guard against the floods of the river Cherwell. Upon the front of the gateway is this inscription—  
 "Glorie Dei Opt. Max. Honori Caroli Regis, in usum Acad. et Reipub.  
 Henricus Comes Dauby D. D. MDCXXXII."

† *Biographia Britannica*.—*Chalmer's Biographical Dictionary*.—*Faller's Worthies of England*, Vol. II.

**CHRISTIAN**, or **CHRIST-MALFORD**, is situated about six miles north-east from the town of Chippenham. The parish constitutes a detached portion of the hundred of North Damerham, and is much more populous than any of the adjoining parishes, containing, according to the parliamentary returns of 1811, 189 houses, and 887 inhabitants. The village is large and respectable, but very irregularly built. It is mentioned under the appellation "*Cristemelford*" in Domesday Book, at which period the manor belonged to the Monks of Glastonbury; but it afterwards came into the possession of the priory of Bradenstoke. Here is an old mansion formerly a seat and residence of a branch of the Herbert family.

**FOXHAM** adjoins Christian-Malford on the south-east. The manor here anciently formed a lordship of a branch of the Hungerford family, one of whom built a small chapel here, which is still in being. The old manor-house, which was distinguished by the appellation of *Cadnam*, or *Cadenham-House*, whence the Hungerfords of this place took their title, is now demolished, but a new house occupies its site.

**TYTHERTON CALLOWAYS**, a village, situated between Foxham and Chippenham, at the distance of four miles north-east from the latter place, deserves notice, from the peculiar circumstances attending its origin and progressive improvement. One Conicker, a native of Reading, having embraced the doctrines of Whitfield and Wesley at the period of their first promulgation, became so zealous a devotee, that he expended his patrimonial estates in building meeting-houses in different parts of the country. Among others, he constructed one at Tytherton, and attached to it a burying-ground, garden, and other appendages for convenience or utility. Here he fixed his own residence, and propagated his opinions with great success during several years; but, on the schism between Wesley and Whitfield, he was so much staggered and disgusted at that event, that he joined the Moravians

vians, and, as may be supposed, induced most of his followers at Tytherton to do the same. Accordingly, the traits of character peculiar to that sect soon began to discover themselves in this infant settlement. A plan was arranged for forming a neighbourhood concurring in one sentiment. With this intention, two cottages, which stood adjoining each other, were purchased, and converted into a house for the reception of the young unmarried women belonging to the establishment, a receptacle invariably to be found, wherever there is a society of Moravians \* A house for young men, on the same plan, was also attempted to be established, but without success.

In this situation, with slow advances towards the end proposed, Tytherton settlement continued till about fifteen years ago, when the society having grown both more numerous and more wealthy, and having besides gained the good will of many of their opulent neighbours, built a new chapel and sister-house, and added to the former a neat residence for their pastor.† Since that period they have erected a large school-house, into which female children of every persuasion are received indiscriminately as boarders, for the purpose of instruction in morality, and in the elements of knowledge. This scheme, we believe, was suggested by some of their neighbours, who, observing the industry, decency, and good regulations prevalent in the sister-houses, conceived that it would be of public, as well as private advantage, if such an institution could be accommodated to the education of female youth.

Not

\* These houses are called Chair-houses, or Sister-houses. They bear some analogy to nunneries, in as far as the inmates are subject to a governess, and must obey certain rules: but no vows of virginity are taken.

† This, among others, is one of the peculiarities of Moravianism, that their places of public worship, and the dwellings of the ministers, are always contiguous. Indeed, the frequency of their meetings, and the many portions into which their worship is divided, and betwixt each of which there is some little space of time allotted, renders such contiguity in some measure necessary.



Nor does it appear that their conception was ill-founded, for the school has increased greatly both in number and reputation.\*

LYNEHAM, or LINFHAM, is a considerable village, situated in the hundred of Kingsbridge, at the distance of seven miles north from the town of Calne. The parish is extensive; and, according to the population returns of 1811, contains 164 houses, and 814 inhabitants. At its western extremity, is the hamlet of Clack, adjoining to which, on the top of a high hill, stands a farm-house, which formerly constituted part of the buildings of

BRADENSTOKE-PRIORY, sometimes also denominated Clack-Priory. This monastic institution was founded about the year 1142, by Walter de Eureux, or de Saresberie†; who dedicated it to the Virgin Mary, and filled it with monks of the Augustine order. After the death of his lady, he abandoned the world, and assuming the habit of a monk in his own establishment, lived there till his death, when he was buried in the priory church. In later times this monastery was united to the duchy of Lancaster; and as part thereof vested in the crown, on the accession of Henry VII. to the throne. In the 26th year of that monarch's successor, its revenues were estimated, as Dugdale, at 212*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.* and as Speed, at 270*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* Subsequent to the suppression, its site and estates were granted to Richard Pexall. It afterwards became the property of the family of the Methuens, by one of whom it was converted into a private residence with offices for a farmer. The situation which it occupies is healthy and salubrious, and commands an extensive prospect towards the west. The house, though somewhat modernized by alterations, still preserves

\* For an account of the Moravians, see a small octavo volume, intitled "A Concise Historical Account of the present Constitution of the Unitas Fratrum, or Unity of the Evangelical Brethren who adhere to the Augustine Confession, translated from the German by the Rev. B. La Trebe." This volume was reviewed, and its contents abridged, in the Monthly Miscellany Jan. 1776,

† This Walter de Eureux was son to Edward de Saresberie, and father to Patrick, first Earl of Salisbury.

serves the fashion of antiquity in its general features. The style of its architecture is Anglo-Norman, corresponding to the age in which it was erected. The cellars are supported by arches and columns.\*

### WOTTON-BASSET

is an ancient borough and market-town, which, in former times, is said to have been a place of some importance, but of late years it has much dwindled. It consists chiefly of one principal street, about half a mile in length. The houses are mostly constructed of brick, with thatched roofs. Two representatives have been regularly deputed from this town to serve in parliament since the twenty-fifth of the reign of Henry VI. They are elected by the inhabitant householders, legally settled there, and paying scot and lot. The corporation is composed of a mayor, two aldermen, and twelve burgesses. The market-day is Tuesday, weekly; and there also six annual fairs. In the centre of the town is a market-house and shambles; and near this stands the town-hall, in which a machine, called a "cucking, or ducking stool," formerly used for the punishment of female scolds, was preserved lately. The church is an old building, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, but is neither remarkable as a specimen of architecture, nor contains any monument, or inscriptions worthy of notice.

According to the population returns of 1811, the borough and parish together contained 321 houses, and 1390 inhabitants, who formerly carried on a considerable trade in broad cloths; but there is now no staple manufactory of any sort, though some attempts have been lately made to introduce the business of rope making and sack-making. In this parish are two free-schools, and a Sunday school. The former were founded and endowed by the Earl of Clarendon, one of them for twelve boys, and the other for twelve girls.

VOL. XV.—*August, 1814.*

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\* The original register of the priory of Bradenstoke is preserved in the British Museum.—Bibl. Cotton, Vitellius, A. XI. 3. A copy of it was in Mr. Astle's Collection.

At the time of the Conquest this place was called simply "Wodcton." It was then the property of Milo Crispin; but, in less than a century afterwards, it was possessed by the Bassets, of Wycombe, a branch of the noble family of the Bassets, of Drayton. From them, who conferred on it its adjunct name, it passed, by a female heir, Lady Aliva, first, to Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, and next, to Hugh de Spencer, her second husband. The latter having espoused the cause of the rebel, Montfort, Earl of Leicester, was slain in the battle of Evesham, and had his estates confiscated to the king. The greater part of them, however, and, among the rest, this manor, were restored to his widow, upon whose death the whole devolved upon her son, Hugh de Spencer, the unfortunate favourite of King Edward II. who having excited the jealousy and hatred of the barons, was tried for high treason, and executed, with his son, on Tower-hill, London. In consequence of that event their estates were confiscated to the crown; and this manor was bestowed by King Edward III. upon Edmund de Langley, Earl of Cambridge, at whose demise, it devolved to his son, Edward, Earl of Rutland, and Duke of York, who left it to his nephew, Richard, Earl of Cambridge. In what manner it passed from this family is uncertain, but it probably reverted to the crown, as, in a petition to Parliament, at the instance of the mayor and free-tenants, it appears to have come "by patent into the hands and possession of one Sir Francis Englefield, Knight."\* The present proprietor is the Earl of Clarendon.

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\* The above-mentioned petition is so singular a document, that we subjoin a copy of the greater part of it.—It sets forth, that the mayor and free-tenants of this borough, had enjoyed, from time immemorial, *free common* of pasture for the feeding of all manner of ruther beasts, as coves, &c. in *Fasterne Great Park*, which contained, by estimation, 2000 acres of ground, or upwards, and that soon after the manor came into the possession of Sir Francis Englefield, Knight, that gentleman did inclose the park, leaving out to the said free tenants of the borough, that part of it which was called

Wotton-

The ancient manor-house, which stands on the summit of a considerable eminence, is now converted into a farm house,

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whence

Wotton-Lawnd, and contained only 100 acres. The petition then proceeds to state, that notwithstanding this infringement of their ancient rights, the inhabitants submitted to it without resistance, and established new regulations of common in conformity to the contracted extent of their lands, giving to the mayor of the town, for the time being, two "cows feeding, and to the constable one cowes feeding, and to every inhabitant of the said borough one cowes feeding, and no more, as well the poor as the rich, and every one to make and maintaine a certain parallel of bound, set forth to every person; and ever after that enclosure, for the space of fifty-six years, or neere thereabouts, any messuage, burgage, or tenant, that was bought or sold within the said borough, did always buy and sell the said cowes leaze, together with the said messuage or burgage, as part and member of the same, as doth and may appeare by divers deeds, which are yet to be seen; and about which time, as we have been informed, and do verily believe, that Sir Francis Englefield, heire of the aforesaid Sir Francis Englefield, did, by some means, gain the charter of our towne into his hands, and as lately we have heard that his successors now keepeth it; and do believe that at the same time he did likewise gain the deed of the said common; and he thereby knowing that the towne had nothing to shew for the right of common, but by prescription, did begin suits in law with the said free tenants for their common, and did vex them with so many suits in law, for the space of seven or eight years at the least, and never suffered any one to come to tryal in all that space, but did divers times attempt to gain the possession thereof, by putting in of divers sorts of cattell, insomuch that at length, when his servants did put in cowes by force into the said common, many times and present, upon putting of them in, the Lord, in his mercy, did send thunder and lightning from heaven, which did make the cattle of the said Sir Francis Englefield to run so violent out of the said ground, that at one time one of the beasts were killed therewith; and it was so often, that people that were not there in presence to see it when it did thunder, would say that Sir Francis Englefield's men were putting in their cattell into the Lawnd, and so it was; and as soone as those cattel were gone forth it would presently be very calme and faire, and the cattell of the towne would never stir, but follow their feeding as at other times, and never offer to move out of the way, but follow their feeding; and this did continue so long, he being too powerfull for them, that the said free tenants

were

whence the eye surveys a very extensive prospect into Somersetshire, Gloucestershire, &c. A variety of curious conical stones, resembling small fir-apples, have been dug up in different spots around the town, imbedded in a sort of blue marly stone.

The

were not able to wage law any longer, for one *John Rosier*, one of the free tenants, was thereby enforced to sell all his land (to the value of 500*l*.) with following the suits in law, and many others were thereby impoverished, and were thereby enforced to yeeld up their right, and take a lease of the said common of the said Sir Francis Englefield for terme of his life ; and the said mayor and free tenants hath now lost their right of common in the land neare about twenty years, which this, now Sir Francis Englefield, his heirs and his trustees, now detaineth from them.

Likewise the said Sir Francis Englefield hath taken away their shops or shambles standing in the middle of the street, in the market-place, from the towne, and hath given them to a stranger that lived not in the towne, and he detaineth them from the town ; and likewise he hath taken certayne garden grounds, which are taken out by a bye street, and detaineth them from the town ; and he hath altered, and doth seek wayes and meares to take the election of the mayor of our town to himselfe ; for whereas the mayor is chosen at the Law-day, and the Jury did ever make choice of two men of the town ; and the lord of the maner was to appoint one of them to serve, which the lord of the manner have refused, and caused one to stay two years together divers times which is a breach of our custome.

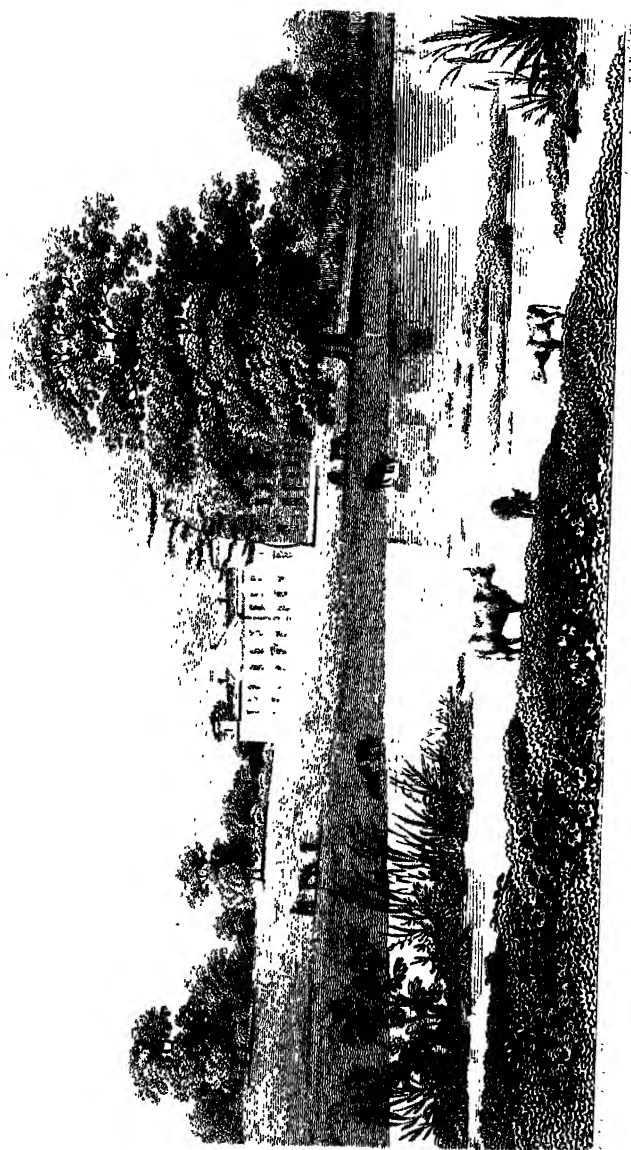
And as for our common, we do verily believe that no corporation in *England* so much wronged is as we are, for we are put out of all common that ever we had, and hath not so much as one foot of common left unto us, nor never shall have any ; we are thereby grown so in poverty, unless it please God to move the hearts of this honourable house to commiserate our cause, and to enact something for us, that we may enjoy our right again.

*And we your Orators shall be ever bound to pray for your healths and prosperity in the Lord."*

This petition was signed by the mayor and twenty-two of the inhabitants, among whom were four widows ; and beneath their signatures appears the following notaudum :

" Divers more hands we might have had, but that many of them doth rent bargains of the lord of the manner, and they are fearfull that they shall be put forth of their bargaines, and then shall not tell how to live, otherwise they would have set to their hands."





The greater part of the houses at present in this borough belong to Joseph Pitt, Esq. who is M. P. for the borough and hundred of Cricklade. His influence in the corporation of Wotton Bassett gives him a great interest in the return of the members for the borough.

LIDDIARD-TREGOOZE, or LYDIARD-TREGOSE, is a village and parish, situated at the distance of three miles north-east from Wotton-Basset. According to the population returns of 1811, the parish contains ninety-five houses, and 613 inhabitants. At the time of the Conquest the manor was called *Lidiar*, and constituted part of the royal domains; but it was soon afterwards granted by King William to the Earl of Ewe, or Ewias, one of whose descendants, Sibilla, carried it, by marriage, to Robert Tregooze, or Tregooze. This gentleman left it at his death to a son of his own name, whose daughter and heiress married one of the Lords Grandison. Mabel, daughter and heiress of William, Lord Grandison, conveyed it to her husband, Sir John de Patishul, Lord of Bletshoe. From that family it passed by another female heir to Roger, Baron Beauchamp, of Bletshoe, whose posterity continued in possession till the reign of Henry VI. when Sir Oliver St. John obtained it, by his marriage with Margaret, daughter of Sir John de Beauchamp, and sister and sole heir to John, Lord Beauchamp. From that period to the present it has remained in the same family, and is now the property of George St. John, Viscount Bolingbroke.

The Church, an ancient structure, is divided into a nave, two side aisles, and a chancel, with a square tower at the west end, surmounted by an open balustrade and angular pinnacles. The chancel is separated from the nave by a wooden screen, on which are carved the royal arms; and, against the pillars supporting the arches, are hung several old helmets and fragments of flags. Some of the windows also contain fragments of painted glass. But what chiefly renders this church worthy of attention, is its inscriptions and monumental erections, in honour



of different members of the family of St. John, some of which we shall transcribe at full length, as we believe they have not hitherto appeared in any publication.

On folding doors, at the north side of the chancel, are two genealogical tablets, exhibiting pedigrees of the St. Johns, with their portraits, and representations of their respective arms, and of the arms of the various ancient and noble families from which they derived their descent. One of these tablets is intituled "The ten lineal descendants of ye 2 families of St. John of Lydiard Tregoze, and St. John, of Bletsho, brought down to the present year 1684:" and the other thus: "A Genealogical Table, with the ducal line of the family of St. John, explaining their alliance, as well in affinity as consanguinity to King Henry VII. and also to Queen Elizabeth, of most glorious and ever blessed memory."

"When Conquering William won by force of sword,  
This famous island then called Britains land,  
Of Tregoze then was Ewias only lord,  
Whose heir to Tregoze linkt in marriage band.  
That Tregoze, a great baron in his age,  
By her had issu'd the lord Grauntson's wife,  
Whose daughter Patshull took in marriage,  
And Beauchamp theirs, which Beauchamp's happy life,  
Was bless'd with a daughter, whence did spring  
An heir to St. John, who did Lydiard bring;  
This course of time, by God's almighty power,  
Five hundred and forty-nine years, and now more,  
Hath kept this land of Lydiard in one race.  
Where at this day is St. John's dwelling place;  
No! no! he dwells in heaven, whose anchored faith  
Fixed on God, accounted life but death."

On these folding doors is likewise a monumental memorial in honour of *Sir John St. John, Knt.* and his *Lady*, whose figures are painted on the entablature, in the attitude of kneeling. At the feet of the lady are six children in mourning habits, and

under them are depicted the respective armorial bearings of St. John and Hungerford, with this inscription :

“ Here lieth the body of SIR JOHN ST. JOHN, KNT. who married Lucy, daur and coheir of Sir Walter Hungerford, of Farley, Knt. by whom he had issue Walter, that died young, Sir John St. John, Knt. and Baronet, Oliver, that died young, Catharine, Anne, Jane, Elnor, Barbara, Lucy, and Martha, that died a child ; he deceased 20th Sept. 1594. She was secondly married to Sir Anthony Hungerford, Knt. by whom she had Edward, Bridget, and Jane, and then died the 4th June, 1598. This was erected by Sir John St. John, Knt. and Baronet, in the year 1615, the 20th of July.”

Under a canopy stands a statue of EDWARD ST. JOHN, habited in armour with great boots and spurs on the legs, and an iron glove on the left hand : the right hand resting on a shield. On the pedestal, supporting the statue is a bass relief representation of a troop of cavalry in marching order, four abreast, with a trumpeter and an officer in front ; and at either end of the pedestal are represented a variety of emblematical trophies ; the inscription is as follows :

P. M. S.

Scitote.

Vos quorum interest humanitatis  
Justum esse dolorem et nolentem mori  
Qui per difficilem lapidem verba querit.

EDWARDUS ST. JOHN.

Fecilissima natura usus ad repentinam gloriam  
Brevi viat speciosum inter homines exemplar,  
Imo ad omne magnificum contendens  
Aurorum tandem fuit egenus,  
Non enim citius virtute fortuna famâ, bonâ  
Ornat familiam, quam per istas jubetur umbras  
Transire haud sicco pede,

Eheu festine satis reliquias mortales prætorum  
 Sinere promiscuas florida juventute  
 (Sed plande) micis cætera scilicet in cælum raptus,  
 Qantus in hoc elato marmore relinquitur, Vos videtis  
 Qui viventem colebatis, victurum lugebatis  
 Es vos etiam qui vitâ functum desideretis  
 Sic ille stetit olim, ut erecta imago stet,  
 Adversus impetus incivilis belli et rigidas minas  
 Armata mortis honesto vultu fidentique pectore tulit  
 Sic enim ille cecidit ut stantem putes  
 Et mente saltem immobilem  
 Qui nimo superstitium voluit amicorum subinde lachrimis  
 Proborumque memoriæ, amor parentis optimi  
 Cujus ingeniosa pietas hunc lapidem  
 Fecit eloquentem  
 Obiit pridie Iduum April anno  
 CIO. IOC. XLV.

Adjoining to the communion table, on the south, is a magnificent and costly monument, in honour of SIR JOHN ST. JOHN, his two wives, and several of their children. On the top is the supine statue of the Knight, in armour, between those of his ladies, one of whom holds a new born infant in her right arm, to denote the occasion of her death. At their feet is a spread eagle crest, and three figures of girls kneeling with books in their hands; and at their heads are five boys in the same attitude, but only four of them have books. From the tomb rise eight Corinthian columns of black marble, supporting an arch and entablature with several figures and armorial bearings. On the entablature is the following inscription:

D. S.

John St. John Miles et Baronett. anno Agens XLIX. mortalitatis suæ  
 memor H. M. M. P. C. A. M,D,XXXIII.  
 et sibi et<sup>m</sup>. ux  
 Annæ et Margaretae.

Anna  
 Filia fuit. Th. Leyghton

Margareta  
 filia fuit Gvl.

Eqs.

Eqs. Aur. ex. Eliz.	Whitmore Armigeri
Conjuge gentis Know	de Aply, provinciae
lesiae, et reginae Eliz.	Salop. vixit
tam virtutis qm. cognationis	Lviii. agens annum virtutis
ergo in deliciis	Laude spectabilis et bonis
Vixit	Operibus intensa
An XXXVII. eximii animi	in istud hujus fami-
et corporis et gratiae muneribus	liae requietorium
dotata.	Svo tempore
Raris virtutis et pietatis exem	(pialiter ipsa
plar. XIII, liberorm. supertit. mater	olim statverit)
Tandem ærumnosis ultimi puerperii	Agreganda.
Agonibus diu conflictata et demv. victa	
fugit in cœlv. XIII. Cal. MDCXXVIII.	

On the north side of the above tomb are the figures of four children, two of them in recumbent postures, and two in kneeling attitudes, with this inscription :

“ Sr John St. John had issue by Anne his 1st Wife  
 Oliver Febry. 9 1612 married Cathae. daur & heir of horace Lord  
 Vere Baron of Tilbury  
 Anne Nov. 5 1614 married Sir Henry Lee of Ditchley Co. Oxford  
 Baronet \*  
 John Mar. 24 1615  
 Wm Mar. 29 1616  
 Edwd Febry. 26 1617  
 Barbara Feby. 15 1618  
 Nicolas Mar. 29 1620 died Apr 18 1629  
 Lucy July — 21  
 Walter May — 22  
 Francis July — 23 — Jan 13 1633  
 Elizth Aug. — 24 — Apr 2, 1639  
 Thos Sep. — 25 — July 23 1630  
 Henry July — 28

God

\* This lady afterwards married Henry Wilmot, Earl of Rochester, and was mother to the celebrated wit and poet, John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester.

God formed a mold of clay which then beganne  
 When he first breathe'd into't to be a man  
 We raise this pile of stone and in its wombe  
 Laying that breathless clay make it a tomb ;  
 A tombe so precious that what here within,  
 Sleeps for a while shall be a cherubin.  
 In which the wealth of nature's treasury,  
 (More beauty, goodness, virtue, cannot dye)  
 The love and glory of her sex, the best  
 Of women, mothers, and of wives doth rest  
 First went the mother after her must go  
 Father and children, and you (reader) too." \*

Against the south wall is a marble monument bearing a black sarcophagus to the memory of JOHN, LORD VISCOUNT ST. JOHN, who died in 1748, and of Ann, his wife, who died July 1744.

Over the chancel door is a large monument of stone with a male and female figure, represented sitting under arched canopies. Another stone monument painted black and white, and gilt, consists of a pedestal, supporting a sarcophagus, on which is represented the figures of an old man and woman kneeling. The man is habited in armour, and the lady in black. Round the sarcophagus rise four Corinthian columns, ornamented with quarterings of the family. On the pedestal is the following inscription :

Jacent hic, optime lector, sub spe beatæ Resurrectionis re-  
 posita,

\* On comparing the accounts given of this Sir John St. John, and his family, by Collins and Sir Egerton Brydges, with the above inscriptions, we found them at variance with it, and with each other. Collins in his edition of the peerage published in 1768, says that Sir John had " issue seven sons and a daughter Anne," and Sir Egerton, in the edition of 1812, gives the same number of sons, but adds two more daughters. It is strange that neither of these laborious genealogists should have thought of consulting the family epitaphs, which would have prevented these errors : and it is still stranger that they should omit mentioning the time and place of Sir John's death, though they mention the death of several of his children.

posita corpora Nicholai Seynt John Armigeri, & Elizabethæ conjugis suæ, reg. Edovardo, Reginæ Mariæ & Regnæ Eliz. e Selectorv. stipatorv. numero qui vulg opentionarios voccati fuerunt eorvmque; apvd principem locvm obtinens, mortem obiit. Eliza. ipsius uxor filia fuit Rich' Blvnt militis; ex eaqve genuit tres filios & quinque filias Johannem, Oliverv. Richardvm. Elizam., Catham. Helinoram, Dorotheam. ATQVE Janam, Johan. filivs natv maximvs, in uxore duxit, filiam Gualteri Hungerford Militis. Olivervs & Richardvs vivunt adhvc celibes, Eliza. filia natv maxima nupsit Seynt-georgæ comitatus Cantabragiensis; Catharina, Webb, Helionora, Cave, commitatus Northamptoniensis; Dorothea, Egioche Warviensis; Jana vero Nicholas, comitatus Wilts. Ipse Nichs. St. John ex hac vita decessit Octavo die Nov. anno Dom. 1589, Eliz. vero, ipsius coniux ex hac vita decessit undecimo die Augi. An. Dom. 1587, insignem relinquentes tropheam posteris suis & famæ puræ & vitæ integræ, Johannes Seyntjohn illorv. filius, hoc illis de se optime meritis & piis parentibus, pietatis erga monumentum posvit Ann. Dom. 1592.

Nobis est Christus & in vita & in Morte lucrum  
 Tempora qui longæ speras felicia vitæ  
 Spes tua te fallit, testes utroque sumvs.

In this church, and in the church yard, are several other monumental erections, not unworthy of notice, but our limits will only permit us to mention one more, which is an altar-tomb, inscribed thus:

“Siste Viator  
 Vir non mentionis hic jacet  
 BENJAMANVS CULME  
 Prænobilis Culmioru. Devonensiu. familiæ  
 Singulare ornamentum  
 S. S. Theologiæ Doctor  
 S. Patricii Dubliniensi Decanus, postremus,  
 non Ultimus

Utriusque

Utriusque fortunæ particeps, utreamque honestavit,  
 Idem semper in ppiis, in adversis, idem  
     in omnibus  
 Antiquæ fidei pietatis patientiæ mortaminis  
 Imitandum exemplar in secundo non imitando  
     In patriam exul, Exul in patria.  
 Nec inaudita Hybnum feritate Pterritus  
 Nec inopinatio Anglorum successu seductus  
 Satur annis, annis satur, neutros Pstremus  
     Sed sæpe plenus et cælo  
 Rerum mundanarum vanitatem exptus plus satis  
     Ut æterna frueretur quiete et gloria,  
     In X<sup>to</sup> placide obdormivit  
     An. Dom. MDCLVII  
     Æt. LXXVI.  
     Oct. XXI."

Adjoining to the church is LIDDIARD-PARK, the seat of Lord Bolingbroke. The attached grounds are extensive, and contain many large clumps of trees, among which is a great number of old oaks. At one extremity a portion of the park is cut off by a fine pond of water. The annexed print shews the south and east sides of the house from this pond. The interior of the mansion contains, among others, a Sea-piece by Wovermans, a large picture, representing a horse-race at Newmarket, and some other pictures of horses, by Stubbs; several originals and copies in crayons, by Lady Diana Beauclerk; a few pieces in water colours, by Lady Bolingbroke; a portrait of Sir Walter Raleigh, in oil, and various family portraits of the St. John's in the same manner.

As several of the ancestors of the present noble proprietor of Liddiard-Tregoze were men of great celebrity in the respective ages in which they lived, it may be interesting to many readers to give a sketch of the family, and to notice more particularly
 such

such of its members as were natives of the place. In doing this, however, we must necessarily be exceedingly brief.

The descent of this family by the paternal side is from the Ports, Lords of Basing, in the county of Southampton, and by the maternal side from WILLIAM DE ST. JOHN, who accompanied the Conqueror to England, as grand master of the battering train, and supervisor of the waggons and carriages. This William derived his name from the territory of St. John, near Rouen. He married Oliva, daughter of Ralph de Filgiers of Normandy, and had by her two sons, Thomas and John, the former of whom held the manor of Stanton and other lands in Oxfordshire, and dying without issue left them to his brother John. This John became famous in the reign of King William Rufus, having been one of the twelve knights, who then accompanied Robert Fitz-Hamon, Earl of Gloucester, in his expedition against the Welsh. He had issue two sons, Roger and Thomas, and one daughter, Avoris. THOMAS distinguished himself in the Crusades, under King Richard I. and was among the knights present at the siege of Acre, round whose left legs that monarch tied a leathern thong, or garter, as a token of superior courage.\* *Roger*, who remained in England, married Cicely, daughter and heiress of Robert de Haya, who brought him two sons and a daughter, Muriel. The sons dying issueless, the estates of the family vested in *Muriel*, who married Adam de Port, a great baron, having the head of his barony at Basing. Great as he was, however, William, his son and heir by Muriel, assumed the name of St. John, which was continued by his descendants. *Robert de St. John*, Lord of Basing, was governor of the castle of Porchester in the 50th year of Henry III. but died shortly afterwards, when his son John succeeded to his estates. This John was ancestor to the Lords St. John of Basing, and by female succession to the Dukes of Bolton and the Marquises of Win-

\* This contrivance to inspire bravery is supposed, by many persons, to have given rise to the first idea of establishing an order of the garter.



Winchester. He had a brother named William, who received from his father the castle of Fonmon, in Glamorganshire; and from whom descended, in lineal succession, Sir Oliver St. John of Bletshoe, already mentioned as the first of the family, who became possessed of Liddiard Tregoze, by his marriage with Margaret,\* daughter of Sir John de Beauchamp, who brought him five daughters and two sons, Sir John St. John, Knight, ancestor to the Earls of Bolingbroke, and *Oliver*, ancestor to the present Viscount Bolingbroke. This Oliver is mentioned by Ieland, in his Itinerary "as a stontie black man." He married Elizabeth, daughter of Lord Scrope, and left a son and heir, John, who was knighted by King Henry VII., and was one of the executors to the will of that monarch's mother. His grandson in lineal succession was Nicholas St. John of Liddiard, Esq. who married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Richard Blount of Mapledurham, and had by her three sons, John, his successor, Oliver, and Richard, of whom by far the most distinguished was

OLIVER, afterwards Viscount Grandison, who was a native of Liddiard Tregoze, and originally bred to the law, but upon being forced to leave the kingdom, on account of his killing Captain Best, in a duel, he changed his profession for that of arms, and began his military career in Flanders, under Sir Francis, and Sir Horace Verè, where he had the honour of knight-hood conferred upon him. In 1601. he was sent with his regiment into Ireland, against the Spaniards, and displayed great courage and good conduct at the battle of Kinsale, and in many other actions with the rebels. He was president of Munster, vice-president of Connaught, master of the ordnance in Ireland,

and

\* This lady had no fewer than three husbands, first Sir John St. John, second John Beaufort, Duke of Somerset, who had issue by her Margaret, Countess of Richmond, mother to King Henry VII. and third Lionel, Lord Welles; by whom she was mother to John Viscount Welles, who married Cecily, second daughter to King Edward IV.

and at length Lord Deputy in that kingdom.\* In this high station, having evinced too much zeal for the protestant religion, he soon found himself beset with enemies, who endeavoured to injure him with the king, but their efforts were vain. He continued in office till May 1622, when he obtained permission to resign, and was raised to the peerage in Ireland by the title of Viscount Grandison of Limerick, with limitation, for want of issue male to the issue of his nephew, Sir Edward Villiers, whose son accordingly enjoyed the honour, and from whom the present Viscount Grandison (Earl of Jersey in England) is lineally descended.

When Charles I. ascended the throne, Lord Grandison was again called into office, and was constituted Lord High Treasurer of Ireland. By letters patent, dated May 21, 1626, he was created a baron of England by the style of Baron Tregoze of Highworth, in the county of Wilts. As, however, he died without issue at Battersea, (the manor of which had been given him by the king) the above title became extinct. The period of his death was December 30th, 1630, when he was buried at Battersea, and left his estates to John, the son of his elder brother Sir John, who inherited Liddiard from his father. This John,† his nephew, was knighted at Whitehall in 1608, and was created a baronet at the first institution of that order in 1611. On the breaking out of the civil war he attached himself zealously to the

\* His accession to the last mentioned dignity is thus commemorated in sculpture, over the choir door in Christ Church, Dublin :

“ The Right Honourable Sir Oliver  
St. John, Knt. descended of the  
Noble House of the Lords St. John,  
of Bletso, Deputy-General of Ireland,  
Who took the sword of state and  
Government of this kingdom into  
his hands August 30, 1616.”

† Vide ante, p. 649.

the royal party, as did all his sons, three of whom fell in battle, fighting in the king's cause. At his decease he was succeeded by his grandson John, who dying issueless before he came of age, his uncle Walter obtained the title and the estates. This baronet usually resided at Battersea, where he died in 1708, leaving to an only son, Henry, his rank and property. This Henry served in Parliament for twenty-one years, and in reward for his services was created Baron St. John of Battersea, and Viscount St. John in 1716. He was twice married, and by his first wife, Mary, daughter to Robert Rich, Earl of Warwick, he was father to *Henry St. John, Lord Viscount Bolingbroke*, one of the most distinguished of our English philosophers and statesmen. This illustrious nobleman early attracted notice by his eloquence in the senate; and in 1704, was nominated secretary at war, a post which he resigned in February 1708. However, on a change of ministry in 1710, he was constituted secretary of state, and one of the privy council; and in 1712, was created "*Baron St. John of Liddiard Tregoze, in the county of Wilts, and Viscount Bolingbroke, in the county of Lincoln.*" About three years afterwards, however, having displayed considerable opposition to the accession of George I. to the throne, his honours were forfeited by attainder, and going abroad he entered the service of the Chevalier de St. George. But having been restored in blood in May 1723, he came to England the month following, and ever after devoted his attention to the pursuits of philosophy, till his death, which happened December 12, 1751, when he was buried in Battersea church, where a monument remains to his memory. His son was twice married, first to Frances, daughter and coheir of Sir Henry Winchcomb, Bart. of Bucklebury, Berks, and secondly, to Mary-Clara de Champs de Maresilly, Marchioness de Villette, niece to the celebrated Madam de Maintenon.\*

Lord

\* The character of Lord Bolingbroke has been drawn by various writers; but none with greater force and comprehension, than by Goldsmith, whose words

Lord Bolingbroke was succeeded in his titles by his nephew Frederick, third Viscount St. John, whose father, though younger  
 VOL. XV.—*August, 1814.* 2 U than

words are these :—" In this manner lived and died Lord Bolingbroke ; ever active ; never depressed, ever pursuing fortune, and as constantly disappointed by her. In whatever light we view his character, we shall find him an object rather properer for our wonder, than our imitation ; more to be feared than esteemed, and gaining our admiration without our love. His ambition ever aimed at the summit of power, and nothing seemed capable of satisfying his immoderate desires, but the liberty of governing all things without a rival. With as much ambition, as great abilities, and more acquired knowledge than Caesar, he wasted only his courage to be as successful : but the schemes his head dictated his heart often refused to execute ; and he lost the ability to perform, just when the great occasion called for all his efforts to engage.

The same ambition which prompted him to be a politician, actuated him as a philosopher ; his aims were equally great and extensive in both capacities ; unwilling to submit to any in the one, or any authority in the other ; he entered the fields of science with a thorough contempt of all that had been established before him, and seemed willing to think every thing wrong that he might show his faculty in the reformation. It might have been better for his quiet as a man, if he had been content to act a subordinate part in the state ; and it certainly had been better for his memory as a writer, if he had aimed at doing less than he attempted. Wisdom in morals, like every other art or science, is an accumulation that numbers have contributed to increase, and it is not for one single man to pretend that he can add more to the heap, than the thousand that have gone before him. Such innovation more frequently retard, than promote knowledge. Their maxims are more agreeable to the reader, by having the gloss of novelty to recommend them, than those which are trite, only because they are true. Such men are therefore followed at first with avidity, nor is it till some time that their disciples begin to find their error. They often, though too late, perceive that they have been following a speculative inquiry, while they have been leaving a practical good ; and while they have been practising the arts of doubting, they have been losing all firmness of principle which might tend to establish the rectitude of their private conduct. As a moralist, therefore, Lord Bolingbroke, by having endeavoured at too much seems to have done nothing ; but as a political writer few can equal, and none can exceed him. As he was a practical politician

than Lord Bolingbroke, had succeeded as second Viscount, the patent of creation having expressly set aside the right of primogeniture, in consequence of Frederick having been in dis-race at the time it was granted. Lord Bolingbroke married Lady Diana Spencer, eldest daughter of Charles, Duke of Marlborough; by whom he had issue two sons, George and Frederick, and one daughter. He died in 1787, when all his titles devolved to his eldest son George, the present "Viscount Bolingbroke and Viscount St. John, Baron St. John of Liddiard Tregoze, and Baron St. John of Battersea, and a baronet."\*

Northward from Liddiard Tregoze, and at the distance of four miles south from the town of Cricklade, is PYRTON, or PURTON, of the lordships of Edward de Saresbery, which descended to his one daughter Maud, whom King Stephen married to Humphrey de Bohun, surnamed the Great. The parish is very extensive, (including a large portion of Bradon Forest) and contains, according to the population returns of 1811, 288 houses and 1497 inhabitants. The village, though small, is agreeably situated, and exhibits several good buildings. The church is an old, but neat edifice, ornamented with several monuments, in memory of different families, particularly of the Maskelynes, ancestors to the late celebrated Dr. Maskelyne, professor of astronomy, who held for forty-six years the important and laborious situation of Astronomer Royal,

politician his writings are less filled with those speculative illusions which are the results of solitude and seclusion. He wrote them with a certainty of their being opposed, sifted, examined, and reviled. He therefore took care to build them up of such materials as could not be easily overthrown; they prevailed at the times in which they were written; they still continue to be the admiration of the present age, and will probably last for ever." See Goldsmith's Life of Henry, Lord Viscount Bolingbroke.

\* See Collins's Peerage of England by Sir Egerton Brydges, 8vo. Vol. VI. 1812.

Royal, and whose useful labours reflect high honour upon himself and upon his country.\*

Several years ago, when digging a grave in the chancel here, the sexton and his assistants discovered a stone coffin, placed about three feet below the surface of the ground. Having raised it with difficulty they found it to consist of a single block of of stone, six feet six inches in length, twenty-two inches in breadth, and eleven in depth, interiorly. It had no lid, and though hollowed with great art, was otherwise extremely rude. There was no inscription by which its date, or the name of the person buried in it could be ascertained; nor were there any remains of its original deposit.

According to some authorities Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, and Lord Chancellor of England in the reign of Charles II. was a native of this parish; but we have preferred to fix his birth-place at Dinton, in South Wiltshire. For an account of his political life, and of his writings, vide ante, p. 254.

## CRICKLADE

is a borough town situated in a flat tract of country on the southern bank of the river Isis, or Thames, which has its source not far from the town. Concerning the origin of this place much diversity of opinion has prevailed among antiquaries and historians. William of Worcester relates that it was formerly called Chelysworth, and constituted part of an ancient parish of that name, extending six miles in circumference.† In a tract

2 U 2

intituled

\* Some have supposed Dr. Maskelyne was a native of this parish, but Dr. Kelly, who wrote an account of his life and writings for Dr. Rees's Cyclopædia, states positively that he was born in London in 1753.

† Itinerary, p. 299. Chelysworth, or Chelworth Great and Little are now only Tythings in the parish of Cricklade, St. Sampson, and we do not find any other evidence, but that above stated, that either of them gave name to the parish.

intituled *Historiola Oxoniensis*, it is affirmed that a *University* was established here by the Britons, over which several Greek philosophers presided; and that this seminary was afterwards translated to Oxford by the Saxons. The authenticity of this account, however, though confirmed as some writers think by the etymology of the term Cricklade, which they conceive to be a corruption for *Greeklade*, is regarded by Camden, Stukeley, and others, as a monkish fable, and altogether undeserving of credit. In this opinion we fully coincide, but we are nevertheless satisfied that Cricklade is a town of great antiquity. Stukeley supposed it probable, that it was originally a Roman station, as the road which connected *Corinium* (Cirencester) with *Spinæ*, (Spence), runs through it. In the *Magna Britannia* it is stated on the authority of the Red Book in the Exchequer, that there formerly belonged to it 1300 hides of land, but the period to which the record refers is not mentioned. This great extent of land most likely comprehended the whole hundred, which was entirely possessed, along with the manor, by Edmund de Langley, Earl of Cambridge, and Duke of York. About the year 905, Ethelwald, nephew and brother to King Edward the elder, pretending to dispute with that monarch his title to the throne, collected a large body of troops, chiefly East Angles, and advanced as far as Cricklade on a predatory excursion. Edward immediately marched to attack him, but the prince withdrew with his spoil, before the royal forces could come up. From a MS. in the Bodleian Library, it appears that Canute the Dane also plundered this town in the year 1016.

Cricklade is a borough by prescription, and was formerly a populous and flourishing town, though it has shrunk now into a comparatively small one. It is governed by a bailiff, who is chosen annually at the court-leet, before the steward of the manor, and has a weekly market on Saturday, and several annual fairs. It first sent members to Parliament in the reign of Edward I. and continued to do so with some intermissions till the time of Henry VI. since which period the returns have been regular;

gular; but a change took place in 1784, in the right of voting at elections, which was before confined to residents within the borough, but is now enjoyed by the freeholders of the hundreds of Cricklade, Highworth, Staple, Kingsbridge, and Malmsbury. This extension of the elective franchise was the consequence of repeated instances of venality and corruption, some of which are noticed in the note below.\*

The earliest notice which occurs respecting the lordship of this town is in the ninth year of the reign of Henry IV. when it appears

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\* In the year 1774, in consequence of the double return of John Dewar, Esq. and Samuel Peach, Esq. petitions were presented by both parties, on consideration of which the House of Commons declared the election void. A new contest accordingly took place, when Mr. Peach was returned, but Mr. Dewar again petitioned, and succeeded in obtaining a decision in his favour. At the general election in 1710, the three candidates were Paul Benfield, John Macpherson, and Samuel Petrie, Esq., of whom the two former were returned. Mr. Petrie, however, presented a petition, the substance of which was, that the two successful candidates had been guilty of gross and notorious acts of bribery and corruption, and that the returning officer had evinced manifest partiality in the execution of his duty. In consequence of this the House of Commons appointed a committee on the 4th of January 1782, to investigate the matter, when a most enormous scene of corruption was unfolded. The committee thereupon reported that Paul Benfield, Esq. was duly elected, but declared the other two not duly elected.

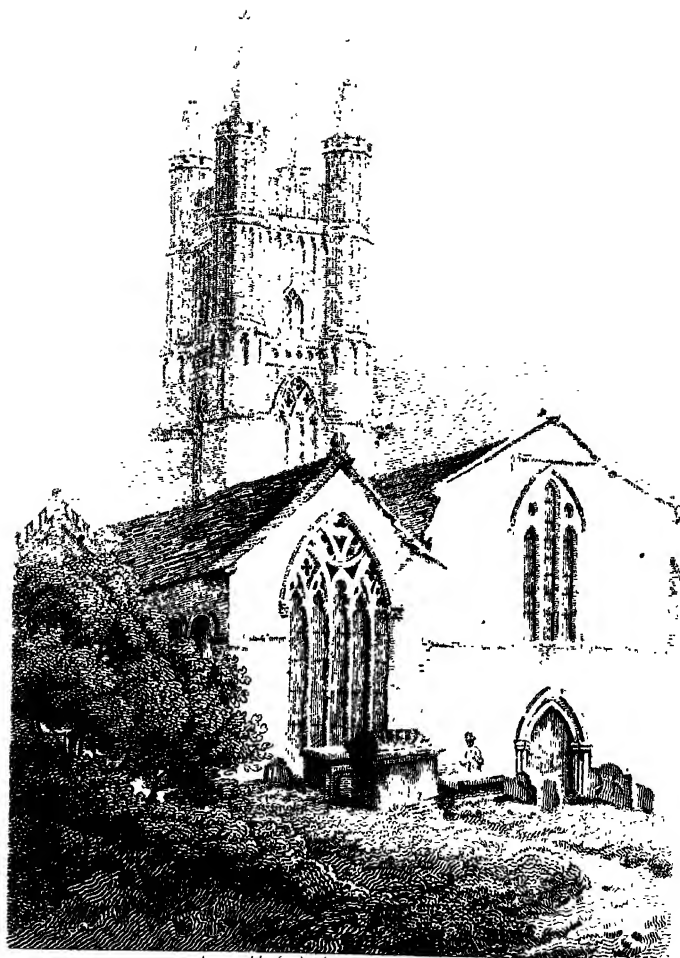
At the election next subsequent to this event the Honourable George Richard St. John and Mr. Petrie opposed each other as candidates, in the room of Mr. Macpherson, when the former having succeeded in his election, the latter offered a petition against him, but afterwards withdrew it. In 1784, Charles Westley Cox and Robert Adamson, Esqrs. both in the anti-ministerial interest, having been returned in opposition to Mr. Henage and Robert Nicholas, who were attached to the administration, the two latter joined in a petition against the return. This came to be heard before a committee on the 14th of February 1785, when it appearing that upwards of a hundred votes had been evidently faggotted, and that the returning officer had been guilty of gross partiality towards the sitting members, the petitioners were declared duly elected, and took their seats accordingly.

History of Boroughs, Vol. III.



pears, that Philippa, the widow of Edward, Duke of York, left it to Richard, Earl of Cambridge, her husband's heir, she having held it in dowry, with other of his estates from the period of his death. In the reign of Henry VI. it was in the possession of the Hungerfords; for in the seventh year of that monarch we find that Sir Thomas Hungerford having obtained a licence, with that intention, made over the advowson of the church of St. Sampson, together with the reversion of the manor, adjoining the town, called Abingdon's Court, to the dean and canons of Salisbury for the repair of the spire of that noble edifice; and for the support of two priests to pray for the good estate of the king, Sir Thomas himself, and Katharine his wife during their lives, and for their souls after their decease. What family next obtained possession of it is uncertain, but at the commencement of the last century it was the property of Nevile Maskelyne, Esq. who sold it, in 1718, to William Gore, Esq. whose son and heir Charles Gore, Esq. conveyed it in 1762, to George Prescott, Esq. and he, the year following, to Arnold Nesbitt, Esq. This gentleman retained it till his death, when he bequeathed it to Paul Benfield, Esq. from whom it was purchased by the late Earl of Carnarvon, in 1792. In 1811, the present Earl sold it to Joseph Pitt, Esq. present representative for the borough and hundreds therewith connected.

The borough of Cricklade is situated partly within the parish of Cricklade, St. Mary, and partly within that of Cricklade, St. Sampson, which together, according to the population returns of 1811, contain 879 houses, and 1556 inhabitants. The town consists principally of one long street, in the centre of which stands the town house, supported upon ten pillars. From an inscription on the south-east side, this building appears to have been erected in 1569, when the town was probably much more extensive and important than at present. The places of public worship here are the parish churches of St. Sampson and St. Mary, and a methodist chapel. St. Sampson's is a large, ancient church, built in the form of a cross, with a handsome tower in the centre, which



*Engraved by G. Scott from a Drawing by J. H. P. N.*

**VIEW of  
ST SAMPSON'S CHURCH, AT CHICKLADE,  
Wiltshire**

*London: Published by J. H. P. N. 1841.*



which rests upon four pointed arches. The summit is adorned by an open balustrade, and four angular pinnacles, with niches and pedestals. On the south side of the church is a chapel, now the entrance porch, which was built by one of the Hungerford's; and more to the east is another, surmounted by large battlements, and displaying in the centre, the figure of a lion couchant.

The north aisle, called Widhull aisle, belongs to the Earl of Radnor, who pays for keeping it in repair. The tower is elegant, and is open to a considerable height within, where it is ornamented with several shields of arms, among which are some charged with the bear and ragged staff; the cognizance of the Earls of Warwick, one of whom it is said contributed largely to the expense of building the structure. The only monument of note is a large slab of black marble, in memory of *Robert Jennor, Esq.* citizen and goldsmith of London, who founded the freeschool here, and bestowed a variety of donations for other purposes. He also built eight almshouses in Malmsbury; and the church of Marston Maysee, in this county. He died in 1651, aged 67. *St. Mary's church* is old, and its tower is covered with ivy. It consists of a nave and two aisles, with a chancel. The arch between the latter and the nave is semicircular, with zigzag mouldings. In the cemetery belonging to this church, stands one of the stone crosses anciently erected in such situations to remind those going into church of the sufferings of the Saviour. It consists of a single stone. The top of the shaft is terminated by a cluster of niches, filled with sculpture. In the middle of the street is another stone cross, similarly ornamented.\*

The only monastic establishment in Cricklade was an hospital dedicated to St. John Baptist. At what time it was founded is unknown, but it is mentioned early in the reign of Henry III. This house is supposed to have stood near the bridge over the

\* See Britton's Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain, Vol. I. where will be found a concise dissertation on crosses, and representations of various examples, in England.

Isis, and was under the government of a warden or prior. At the Dissolution, its revenues were valued at 4*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.* ob. per annum.

ROBERT CANUTUS, a writer of eminence, who lived in the twelfth century, was a native of Cricklade. He was educated at Oxford, and became chief of the canons of St. Frideswide in that city. He wrote some comments both on the Old and New Testament; and formed a Collection from Pliny's Natural History, which he dedicated, under the title of "The Garland," to King Henry II.

About two miles north-east from Cricklade is the village of *Down-Ampney*, where Lord Eliot has an ancient seat. The parish consists principally of fertile meadow land,, skirting the banks of the River Thames; and through it runs a small stream, which Leland called "*Ampney brook.*" This formerly divided the counties of Wilts and Gloucester; but the course of the current having been a little altered, an artificial boundary is now defined, and the gardens are thereby situated in the two counties.

By the Domesday Survey, it appears that this manor, or lordship, belonged to Radulph de Todeui, when that work was compiled; but it soon afterwards came into the possession of the Crown. In 1250 it was the property of the Villers family, from whom it was purchased by Sir Thomas Hungerford, the first constitutional speaker of the House of Commons. This gentleman obtained from Richard II. the liberty of free-warren in this manor, A. D. 1385, and his descendants continued possessors of it till about the year 1645. In the time of Henry VIII. Down-Ampney belonged to Sir Anthony Hungerford; who, to use the words of Leland, "hath here a faire house of stonc."

The oldest part of the present mansion, with the "*Gate-house*" represented in the annexed plate, appear to have been built by Sir Anthony, as his arms, and some devices of that age, are carved in various places. On the wainscot of the great hall,  
at

at present the kitchen, is the date of 1537. Bridget, daughter and heiress of Sir Anthony Hungerford, having married Edmund Dunch, Esq. afterwards created Baron Burnel, thereby conveyed Dawn-Ampney to another family: from whom it was purchased by James Craggs, Esq. secretary of state to King George I. This gentleman dying intestate, the present property became jointly vested in his three-sisters, one of whom, married Sir John H. Cotton, of Cambridgeshire, and resigned Down-Ampney to her other sisters. These bequeathed it to the late Edward Craggs Eliot, Lord Eliot, from whom it descended to his son and heir, the present Lord Eliot. By this nobleman the mansion-house of Down-Ampney has been rendered a comfortable, though rather a small, family residence; and the grounds, plantations, and all the buildings on the estate, have been greatly improved.

Contiguous to the mansion is the parish church, the oldest part of which is said to have been built by the Knights Templars, to whom the impropriate tythes were granted by Edward I. in the year 1260. The church consists of a nave, chancel, transept, and side aisles, with an embattled tower at the west end, crowned with an elegant spire. Under the window, in the south transept, is the tomb of Sir NICHOLAS DE VILLERS, and his lady, the statues of whom are represented beneath an arch of the ogee form, which prevailed during the greater part of the fourteenth century, especially in the tombs of the crusaders."\* Sir Nicholas, who was much renowned for his martial achievements, accompanied Edward I. in his wars in the Holy Land, and is here represented as a crusader in mail and surcoat, with his legs crossed, his feet resting against a lion, and on his left arm is a shield, bearing the cross of St. George, charged with five scallop shells. Beneath the figure is an inscription in Saxon characters, which, though much mutilated, appears to have been in the following terms:

"Hic jacet Nicholas de Villers, qui obiit X... die  
mensis Junii, Anno Domini M.CC.LXXXXIII."

POULTON,

\* Lysons' Gloucestershire Antiquities, p. 3, and pl. VI.

**POULTON,** or **PULTON** is a considerable parish, situated about two miles to the north of Down-Ampney. Though politically belonging to Wiltshire, it is environed by the county of Gloucester, and, according to the parliamentary returns of 1811, contains sixty houses, and 305 inhabitants. This place, Tanner informs us, was the site of a Gilbertine *priory*, founded by Sir Thomas de Sancto Mauro, or Seymour, in the reign of Edward III. It was dedicated by him to the Virgin Mary, and annexed as a cell to the priory of Sempringham, in Lincolnshire. At the Dissolution, it contained a prior and three monks, whose revenues were valued at 20*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* These, with the site and buildings of the priory, were granted, 36 Henry VIII, to Thomas Stroude, Walter Earle, and John Paget. Leland, who visited Pulton a few years before this event, remarks, concerning the priory, as follows:—"I noted a little beyond Pulton village, Pulton priorie, where was a prior and 2 or 3 Black Chanons with him: I saw in the waulles where the Presbyterie was 3 or 4 arches, where there were tunbes of gentlemen: I think that there was byried sum of the Sainct Maurs; and of a surety, St. Maur, founder of it, was buried there.\*

**HANNINGTON** is a small village and parish, situated about four miles to the east of Cricklade. According to the parliamentary returns of 1811, the parish then contained 87 houses, and 412 inhabitants. The village, which is built in the form of the letter Y, is extremely rural and picturesque in its appearance. *Hannington-House*, adjoining; the seat of ——— Montgomery, Esq. is a large respectable old mansion, with extensive and well wooded inclosures attached to it.

## HIGHWORTH

is a market-town and parish, situated near the confines of this county with Berkshire, at the distance of 76 miles N. by W. from London.

\* Leland's Itinerary, Vol. II. p. 22.

London. The town is called a borough, though it never appears to have sent members to parliament. It has, however, a corporation, consisting of a mayor, alderman, and council, but their powers are very limited. As it gives name to the hundred in which it stands, some have supposed that it anciently was more important than at present. In Domesday-book it is mentioned under the appellation of "Wrde;" and is stated to have constituted part of the royal domains. When, or in what manner, it obtained its corporate privileges, is wholly unknown; nor, indeed, is there a single historical fact recorded concerning it. The market-day here is Wednesday every week; and there are three annual fairs; but neither the market nor the fairs are well attended. Here are held the petty sessions for Highworth division of the hundred; and a fixed pillory is preserved in the market-place.

Highworth parish includes six tithings, viz. Broad Blunsdon, Highworth, Eastrop, South-Marston, Sevenhampton, and Westrop, which, according to the parliamentary returns of 1811, contain 494 houses, and 2514 inhabitants. It comprehends about 10,000 square acres of ground; and, in spiritual matters, is subject to the dean of Sarum. The town of Highworth occupies very elevated ground, and hence commands fine views over the adjacent country. The houses are for the most part built of stone, and tiled. The church is an ancient building, and consists of a nave, two side aisles, a chancel, and two small monumental oratories, or chapels, with a tower at the west end, which is surmounted by an open balustrade, and four figures, for angular pinnacles. The aisles are separated from the nave by pointed arches resting upon round columns, against one of which is affixed a long list of donations to the poor, chiefly in bread. The south monumental chapel is hung round with pieces of ancient armour, and contains several monuments in honour of the *Warnefords*, of Sevenhampton. In another part of the church is a mural tablet to the memory of Sir *John Croft*, Baronet, of Dunstan Park, Berkshire, who died in 1797.



The manor of Highworth anciently formed part of the property of Edmund de Langley, Earl of Cambridge, fourth son to King Edward III who transmitted it to his son Edward, Earl of Rutland, and Duke of York. In later times it came into the possession of the family of the St. Johns, of Liddiard-Tregoze. Sir Oliver St. John, Lord Grandison, was created Lord Tregoze, of Highworth, in the time of Charles I.\*

About a mile and a half north from Highworth is the hamlet, or tything of *Sevenhampton*, or *Sevinghampton*, which is mentioned in Domesday-book as part of the possessions of William, Earl of Ewe or Ow, whose descendants retained it till the reign of Henry III. when it was forfeited to the Crown, and given to Prince Edward, afterwards King Edward I. It is now the property of the family of Warneford, who have a seat called *Warneford-Place*, in the immediate vicinity. The house is old, but large and respectable, and has attached to it an extensive garden and park. In the latter is a large pond of water of an amphitheatrical form, having in the centre a small island, covered with trees.

On Blunsdon-Castle-Hill, about two miles to the west of the town of Highworth, but within the parish, is a large circular entrenched work, which is generally supposed to have been a Roman encampment, and that opinion is rendered extremely probable, by the circumstance of the Roman road passing close under the hill.

STRATTON-ST.-MARGARET is a village and parish, situated three miles south-west from Highworth, on the road to Swindon. According to the population returns of 1811, the parish contains 135 houses, and 680 inhabitants. In the village was an alien priory, which was founded soon after the conquest, and continued to flourish till given by King Henry VI. to the Provost and Scholars of King's College, Cambridge.

## SWINDON

\* Vide ante, p. 655.

## SWINDON

Is a respectable market-town, agreeably situated on the summit of a considerable eminence, commanding a delightful prospect over parts of Berkshire and Gloucestershire. As none of our early historians notice this town, it is presumed to have been anciently of little importance, and in no shape connected with any noted civil or military event. The name, however, is at least coeval with the Conquest, "Svindune" being the appellation by which this is distinguished in Domesday-book. According to the parliamentary returns of 1811, the parish contained 263 houses, and 1613 inhabitants. There is no particular trade carried on here; but as a number of persons of independent fortune reside in the town, their constant intercourse gives a degree of life to this place, while, at the same time, their mansions contribute in no small degree to ornament it. The market is held on Monday, weekly, for corn, and other commodities; and on every alternate Monday for cattle. This last is called the Great Market. Here are besides five annual fairs; and the petty sessions for Swindon division of the hundred are held in the town.

Swindon Church stands at the south-east end of the town. This edifice is mean in its architecture, but is neatly fitted up in the interior, and contains several monumental erections. None of these, however, are remarkable, except one on the east side of the south aisle, which is of excellent design, and most exquisite workmanship. It serves to commemorate the virtues of Mrs. Millicent Neate, daughter of the Rev. John Neate, late vicar of the parish, who departed this life on the 9th of July 1764, in the 73d year of her age. The living is a vicarage, in the patronage of the king. There is in this town a very respectable Free-school, situated in Newport-street. It was established towards the close of the year last mentioned; for the instruction of twenty boys and five girls, in reading, writing, and arithmetic, and is supported  
entirely

entirely by voluntary contributions. Adjoining the church-yard, on the south-west is a mill, which is driven in an uncommon manner, the water for that purpose being conducted by pipes from a well called Church-Well Pond. At the extremity of the horizontal pipes another is fixed, vertically, in height about ten feet, through which the water is elevated to a trough, whence it falls upon the mill-wheel, and turns it with perfect regularity.

Some very extensive quarries are wrought in this neighbourhood, which, together with the pursuits of husbandry, afford sufficient employment for the mass of the inhabitants. The stones raised from these quarries are usually of great magnitude; and, in respect of the qualities of beauty and durability, scarcely yield, when cut, to the much celebrated Portland stone.

SWINDON-HOUSE, a seat of the family of Goddard, stands at a short distance from the north side of the church-yard. It is a neat, modern built edifice, with a fine lawn and extensive pleasure grounds attached to it. The prospect from all the higher parts of the park is peculiarly pleasing, comprehending a wide extent of rich pasture lands.

In a field at Brome, a small hamlet to the northward of Swindon, is a stone called *Long Stone*, which stands upright, and measures above ten feet in height; and, in the meadow below, is a range of smaller stones placed in a straight line. These stones are conjectured to be remains of a Druidical work; but there is no tradition respecting its origin, or distinct appropriation.

WANBOROUGH, a village and parish, situated at the distance of three miles south-west from Swindon, at the time of the Conquest was the lordship of Almaric de St. Amand, and continued in his descendants till the reign of Richard II. when it was alienated to the family of the Lovells. The church here is an ancient building, and contains several old monuments and inscriptions, among which the following may claim our notice:

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" Marmoreo lapide Thomas jacet hic et Editha  
 Quem Polton vita quisque vocabat ita  
 Quos mors expulit hinc milleno virginis anno  
 Quadringenteno decimo, quibus-addimus Octo,  
 Undeno luce Septembris hunc duodena  
 Huic Februi gradiens fundas pecanina plena  
 Octoque natorum, natarum totque suarum  
 Collegium carum circumeundo Sarum  
 Ex obitu quorum Wanbergha auxatus habebit  
 Quatuor atque decem nummos quæ rite tenebit  
 Post ortum matris domini dominica die sequenti  
 Ellermo de et Halle-Place Wanbergham retinente."

Within this parish, the Roman road already mentioned, as passing through Cricklade, divides into two branches, one of which leaves this county near the village of Baydon; while the other running more directly southward, traverses the Marlborough Downs, and continues its course through Savernake Forest to Chute-Park, where it enters Hampshire, and proceeds onwards to Winchester.

LIDDINGTON, or BADBURY-CASTLE, is an extensive circular entrenchment, occupying the summit of Beacon-hill, which overlooks the villages whence the fortification derives its name. This work, from its lofty position and simple construction, was most likely of British origin; and Whitaker\* thought that it was the "Mons Badonicus," described by the ancient writers as having been a British out-post of great strength, and the first which was besieged by Cerdic, the Saxon, when he advanced into Wiltshire in the year 520, and was completely defeated in its vicinity by the Britons under the illustrious Arthur. For some remarks relative to the situation of this post, vide ante. p. 10.

OGBOURN ST. GEORGE, or GREAT OKEBURN, is a small parish and village, situated on the turnpike-road between Swindon and Marlborough, at the distance of four miles north from the latter

\* History of Manchester, Vol. I.

latter town. The village is noted as the site of an *alien priory*, which is thus noticed by Tanner, in his *Notitia*.—"About the year 1149, Maud de Wallingford (daughter and heiress to Robert D'Oiley) gave to the abbey of Bec Herlowin, in Normandy, the manors and churches of Great and Little Okeburn, at the former of which places a convent of Benedictine monks was fixed, and became the chiefest and richest cell in England to it. It underwent the same fate with the other alien priories, of being seized, during the wars with France, into the king's hands, and finally suppressed 2 Hen. V. All the tithes, and other spiritualities of this religious house, were given, by John, Duke of Bedford, to Windsor College, and confirmed to them by King Henry V. and King Edward IV.; but the priory and manors of Okeburn-Magna and Parva were granted by King Henry VI. first to the University of Cambridge, and afterwards to the Provost and Fellows of King's College, in that University. And 1 Edward IV. this priory, or some part of its lands, was granted to the Charterhouse in London."

Within this parish is BARBURY-CAMP, or CASTLE, another very large British entrenchment, which, in some respects, bears much similarity to that of Liddington. It is placed on one of the extreme summits of the Marlborough Downs. Its form is nearly circular, and it has a double ditch and rampart throughout its whole circumference. The inner ditch is deeper than the outer one; and its rampart is much bolder, and more artificially made, which induces us to suspect that it did not form a part of the original work. This entrenchment has two entrances fronting the east and west, and both defended by out-works resembling the half-moons of modern fortifications. In diameter, it measures, according to Stukeley, 2000 feet; and on all sides is excellently calculated for defence, as well as for observation. By the ancient historian, Henry of Huntingdon, it is called *Beranbyrig*, and is recorded to have been the scene of a most sanguinary action between the West-Saxons and the Britons, A. D. 556. The battle lasted from break of day till night, and ended in the total  
rout

part of the Britons, and the capture of their fortress, events which secured the annexation of Wiltshire to the West-Saxon dominions. In the neighbourhood of this entrenchment numerous barrows are dispersed over the fields, and are usually considered to be sepulchral monuments raised over the bodies of the more eminent among the slain.\*

ROCKLEY, a small hamlet within the parish of Oghourn St. Andrew, or Parva, was the site of a preceptory belonging to the Knights Templars in the reign of Henry II. Afterwards, however, the lands and revenues of this establishment passed into the possession of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, and were assigned for the maintenance of their house at Saunford, in Oxfordshire.

## MARLBOROUGH

is a considerable borough and market-town, situated on the great road between London and Bath, at the distance of seventy-five miles west by south from the metropolis. Of the origin of this place nothing certain is known. Some have supposed it to have been the site of the Roman station *Cunctio*; but it is now ascertained that this station was to the south-east of the town.—If it was a town in Saxon times it must have been of little importance, as it is not mentioned in the annals of that people; nor does it possess any vestiges of antiquity which can be referred to so early a period. In Domesday-book it is merely stated to have constituted part of the royal domains at the era of the Conquest, and to have had a church belonging to it, which, with one hide, was valued at thirty shillings, and was held by William de Belfou.

Posterior to the Conquest, in conformity to the policy then adopted for the security of the kingdom, a *Castle* was erected here, which appears to have been a fortification of strength, and certainly first gave importance to this place. In several succes-

VOL. XV.—August, 1814.

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\* Vide ante, p. 12; also Stukeley's Itinerary, Vol. I. p. 132.

sive reigns it was the scene of some interesting military and political events. During the contests between the Empress Maud and King Stephen, the governor of this castle declared for the former, and held it in her name as long as any chance of success remained. In the time of Richard I. while that monarch lay immured in prison, by the treachery of Lewis of Austria, John, his brother, and eventual successor, seized upon many of the principal fortresses in the kingdom, and, among others, upon that at Marlborough. His object in this measure was to obtain possession of the throne, but his designs being thwarted by the firm conduct of his mother, he fled into France, leaving the strong holds he had secured under the government of adherents, who were soon forced to surrender their trusts by the valour and skill of Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury. In the barons wars Marlborough was alternately possessed by the king, and by his opponents. Henry III. made it occasionally his court residence; and, in his fifty-second year, a parliament met here, and enacted those laws relative to the police of the country, and the administration of justice, which are still familiarly known to lawyers by the title of "*The Statutes of Malbridge.*" At what time this fortress was demolished is as much unknown as the precise period of its erection; but this must have happened long before the time of Camden, as that antiquary informs us that nothing remained of it when he visited Marlborough, but a few fragments of walls. At present even these are entirely gone, and a handsome house, formerly belonging to Lord Hertford, but now converted into an inn, occupies its site. The foundation of the keep, however, is still visible in the garden behind the house. It is a large mount, rising in a conical form, and was generally considered to be a sepulchral barrow, till the error of that idea was pointed out by Mr. King, who has satisfactorily proved that such works constituted part of the construction of all early Norman castles.\*

Marlborough was first incorporated by charter in the fifth year of the reign of King John; but it likewise claims the privilege of  
having

having been a borough by prescription, for a century previous to that era. Since that time it has been favoured by different monarchs with charters, confirming and extending its various privileges and immunities. In virtue of these deeds it is now governed by a corporation, consisting of a mayor, two justices, twelve aldermen, and twenty-four burgesses, with a clerk and other subordinate officers. The mayor and justices are empowered to hold quarterly sessions of the peace. The arms of the town are, "party, per saltier G. and A.; in the first and third quarters *gules*, a bull *argent*, in the second *azure*, a cock or capon *argent*, the third as the second: on the base *gules*, three greyhounds current, *argent*, between two roses *gules*," in allusion to the custom generally observed by every person on admission into the corporation, of presenting the mayor with a white bull, two white capons, and two greyhounds. This donation is now commuted for a sum of money.

The borough of Marlborough, observes the author of the History of Boroughs, "sent members to parliament *ab initio*;" who are elected by "the mayor and burgesses of the borough only." The mayor is the returning officer; and the patronage is vested in the Earl of Ailesbury.

As the manufactures of this town are few and inconsiderable, it may justly be regarded as deriving its chief support from its advantageous situation on the high western road, and the consequent extent and superiority of its weekly markets, which are held on Saturday, and have been long celebrated for a large supply of grain, butcher's meat, and cheese, of the best quality. The fairs here are on the 10th of July, and on the 22d of November, when there is a considerable shew of cattle, pigs, and sheep. According to the population returns of 1811, this town contains 2579 inhabitants, and 456 houses. The latter are chiefly disposed in one long street, which runs from east to west. They are very irregularly built; some of them being constructed of stone, but the greater number of brick, or wood. Those built of wood are in general very old, and are ornamented in front

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with



with curious carved work. Part of the street presents rather an unusual appearance, a piazza, projecting before the shop-windows, which serves as a promenade for the inhabitants in bad weather. In its centre are the shambles, or meat-market; and at its eastern extremity is a market-house for cheese, butter, and corn. This edifice is of ancient erection, and exhibits much singularity in its construction. The higher story is occupied by a council-chamber, an assembly-room, and a court-room, in which the annual county sessions are held, and likewise the courts belonging to the town. Near this building stands the old church of *St Mary*, which displays various styles of architecture. The tower, which is of stone; is its oldest division, and has a doorway under it, adorned with chevron and zig-zag mouldings, such as are generally referred to a Saxon origin, but which were doubtless also used as ornaments by the Normans. (It is engraved in Vol. I. of *Architectnral Antiquities*.) *St. Peter's Church* is situated at the western extremity of the street. It is adorned by a lofty square tower, surmounted with battlements and pinnacles; and interiorly has its roof supported by light pillars.

Besides the above churches, both of which are parochial, there are in Marlborough several meeting-houses appropriated to the worship of dissenters. The other public establishments are a charity-school and a prison. The charity-school was originally founded and endowed in 1712, for the clothing and education of forty-four poor boys, and is, we believe, one of the richest institutions of the kind any country town can boast of, its regular revenues from landed property alone amounting to upwards of 600*l.* per annum. The old building having been much decayed, a handsome new one has lately been erected in its stead by the corporation. The prison, which serves both as a county bridewell and as a town gaol, was first inhabited in 1787. It is a large edifice, commodiously laid out, and having two open courts attached to it, one of which is appropriated to the use of male prisoners, and the other to the use of female prisoners.

The monastic institutions belonging to this town were a Gilbertine

bertine-priory, St. John's Hospital, St. Thomas's Hospital, and a house of White-Friars.

The *Gilbertine priory* was founded before the time of King John, by one of his predecessors, but by which of them is not known. It was dedicated to St. Margaret, and continued in existence till the general suppression, when its revenues were estimated at 30*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*; and the site and buildings were granted to Anthony Stringer.

*St. John's Hospital* stood in the lower part of the town, upon land "given by Levenoth fil. Levenothi." It was established in the reign of Henry II. for brethren and sisters; and, at the Dissolution, 26 Henry VIII. was valued at 6*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* per annum.

*St. Thomas's Hospital* was an hospital for a master and several poor sick brethren, in the beginning of the reign of Henry III.; annexed temp. Richard II. to the priory of St. Margaret above-mentioned.

The *House of White Friars* was situated on the south side of the main street near its centre. It was founded in 1316 by two merchants of the town, John Godwin and William Remesbeck, and was granted, 38 Henry VIII. to John Pye and Robert Brown.

Marlborough has given title to several individuals immortalized in the page of English history. *James Ley*, sixth son of Henry Ley, of Telfout-Ewias, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, and Lord High Treasurer of England in the reign of James I. was created Earl of Marlborough 1 Charles I.\*—His grandson, the third earl, was distinguished for his naval prowess in the war following the Restoration, and fell fighting against the Dutch in 1665, when he was succeeded in his honours by his uncle; at whose death, in 1679, the earldom became extinct. It was revived, however, ten years thereafter, in the person of John, Lord Churchill, who was first created Earl, and

2 X 3

afterwards

\* Vide ante, p. 251.

afterwards Duke of Marlborough, and whose name is associated with deeds of arms, and acts of diplomacy, not surpassed even in the late eventful period of European convulsion. His Grace having no issue male, his daughter, Henrietta, Countess of Godolphin, succeeded as Duchess of Marlborough. This lady died in 1733, without any surviving child, leaving her titles and estates to her nephew, Charles Spencer, eldest son of the Earl of Sunderland, by Lady Anne, the Duke's second daughter, who died during his own lifetime. This nobleman, following the example of his illustrious grandfather, greatly distinguished himself at the battle of Dettingen, in which he led a brigade of foot-guards; and commanded in an expedition against St. Maloes in 1758. In the same year he was nominated general-in-chief of the British forces intended to serve in Germany, under Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick; but died of a fever at Munster in Westphalia, before active operations commenced. He was succeeded in his titles and property by his son, George, present "Duke of Marlborough, Marquis of Blandford, Earl of Sunderland and of Marlborough, Baron Spencer of Wormleighton, and Baron Churchill, of Sundridge,"

Marlborough is noted as the birth-place of several men conspicuous in the annals of literature; viz. Henry of Marlborough, John Sedgewick, and his brother Obadiah, Christopher Fowler, John Hughes, Henry Sacheverell, and Walter Harte.

*Henry of Marlborough* was born towards the close of the fourteenth century. Having been educated for the church, he was appointed vicar of Balliscaddan, in the county of Dublin, and held that incumbency till his death. He was author of seven books of Annals, written in Latin, which were partly published by Camden in his *Britannia*; and afterwards at the end of Dr. Hamner's *Chronicles*.

*John Sedgewick* was born in the parish of St. Peter's about the year 1600, and was educated at Queen's College, Oxford, where he took his degrees in arts, and entered into holy orders. He was successively preacher at Chiswick, in Middlesex, and rector

rector of St. Alphege, London, and published a book in opposition to the doctrines of the Antinomians. He also published several sermons, with the same tendency.

*Obadiah Sedgewick* was educated at the same college with his brother, and, like him, engaged in the ministry; and, after passing through several subordinate appointments, became minister of St. Paul's, Covent-garden, London. He accompanied Sir Horace Vere as military chaplain in his expedition to the Low Countries. During the commonwealth he frequently preached before parliament; and was a member of the assembly of divines. His published works were, some treatises on doctrinal questions, and several sermons.

*Christopher Fowler* was born in 1610 or 1611, and, in 1627, became a servitor at Magdalen College, Oxford; but left it for Edmund Hall, where he obtained the degree of M. A. and entered into holy orders in the established church. Afterwards, however, he joined the Presbyterians; and was assistant to the Berkshire parliamentary commissioners for the ejection of "scandalous, ignorant, and insufficient ministers and school-masters." At this time he was vicar of St. Mary's, Reading, and fellow of Eton School; but, on the Restoration, he was ejected from both situations for refusing to conform. After this event he continued to preach privately in London and its vicinity, till he became disordered in his understanding. He died in Southwark, January, 1676, leaving behind him several works on religious subjects, and in vindication of the conduct of the parliamentary commissioners for ejections.

JOHN HUGHES, a poet and moral writer of considerable eminence, was born in 1677. As his father was a citizen of London, he received his education in the metropolis; and, being of a weak constitution, had his attention more directed to poetry, music, and drawing, than to the severer studies. The first public specimen which he gave of his poetical talents was his "Triumph of Peace," written in 1697. The success this performance met with, encouraged its author to cultivate his muse;

and, in 1699 he published his "Court of Neptune," which not only maintained, but increased his former reputation. His next production was an "Ode on the death of King William;" which was followed, in 1703, by an "Ode in praise of Music;" and another, occasioned by the death of William, Duke of Devonshire. Hitherto Hughes had only appeared before the public as a poet; but he now began to display his powers of prose composition; and contributed, during a course of several years, many interesting papers to the *Tatler*, *Spectator*, and *Guardian*, and *Lay Monk*. This circumstance introduced him to the acquaintance of Steele, Addison, and other celebrated persons of his age. Addison, in particular, treated him with distinguished regard, and entertained for him a very warm and sincere friendship, which was not a little heightened by the congeniality of their moral habits, and the coincidence of their sentiments on the subject of religion. At the instigation of that great man, he published his "Ode to the Creator of the World," a production fraught with rational and elevated piety. This was in 1712, the same year in which his opera, called "Calypso and Telemachus," was brought upon the stage, and received with the greatest applause, notwithstanding the efforts of the Italian band to embarrass the performance. In 1715 he undertook to edit a new and complete edition of the works of Spencer, with notes, and a life of the poet, and discharged his trust with great judgment, spirit, and elegance. In 1717, Lord Chancellor Cooper, from a sense of his merits alone, appointed him secretary to the commission of the peace, which office he held till his death, on the 17th of February, 1719, the very night on which his tragedy, called "The Siege of Damascus," was played for the first time.

Hughes, in the character given of him in the *British Biography*, is said to have been a man not only of great genius, but of great diligence, delicate taste, and correct judgment. His talent for lyric poetry is particularly praised; and his skill in music is represented as having been such "as might, with proper encouragement, have carried the English Opera as high as the

the Italian." These praises, however, are by far too lofty. Hughes as a poet, scarcely rose above mediocrity: indeed his "Siege of Damascus," is the only piece which now sustains his fame. His forte seems to have been popular criticism, in which it is sufficient eulogium to say that few of his contemporaries surpassed him; and he certainly yielded to none of them in modesty of deportment, mildness of manners, or integrity of life.

HENRY SACHEVERELL, D. D. & noted divine, was educated at Magdalen College, Oxford, of which he afterwards became fellow. Neither gifted with uncommon talents, nor great learning, he rendered himself conspicuous only by the political violence of his sermons. Two of these productions, which he preached before the Lord Mayor, occasioned his trial by impeachment, an injudicious measure, which raised to fame and popularity a man who would otherwise, most probably, have sunk into insignificance and contempt. His sermons were ordered to be burnt, and he was suspended from preaching for three years. But though thus punished, he enjoyed ample recompence in the overthrow of the ministry, and in the controversial discussions to which his trial gave rise. Moreover, during his suspension he was collated to a living near Shrewsbury; and in the same month which terminated his his punishment, the queen gave him the valuable rectory of St. Andrew's, Holborn. He died in 1724.

WALTER HARTE, a poet and historian of considerable celebrity, was born early in the last century, and imbibed the rudiments of education at the free-school of his native town. He was a man of great acquirements, and is spoken of in terms of unqualified encomium by the celebrated Lord Chesterfield, to whose son he was tutor. His chief poetical work, intituled "The Amaranth," was highly praised by Warton and other distinguished critics; and his "History of Gustavus Adolphus," and his "Essays on Husbandry," are still considered respectable productions. Harte died in 1773.

About a quarter of a mile west of the castle is the village church of PRESNUTE, an ancient, but small edifice. In it is a very large  
and

and curious *font*, formed out of a single block of black stone, which has occasioned some dispute among antiquaries. One calls it touch-stone, another black agate, and Mr. Gough pronounces it to be grey marble. According to tradition, which is generally prone to the marvellous, several ancient princes were baptized here.

On *Folly-Farm*, about a mile to the eastward of Marlborough, is a large earthen work, which is now distinctly proved to have been the site of the ancient CUNETIO of the Romans. It is of a square, or rather of an oblong form, and is surrounded by a ditch and vallum, through which are several entrances, whence roads, proceeding in different directions, are distinctly visible. In the centre of the area of this station, extensive foundations of buildings, and some Roman pavements have been lately discovered.

To the southward of this station is an extensive tract of woodland called SAVERNAKE FOREST. At what time it was first constituted a forest is not ascertained ; but in the reign of Edward III. it was assigned, as part of the jointure of Queen Eleanor, and was held in the same manner by several succeeding queens. In later times it was granted to the family of Seymour, Dukes of Somerset, and passed from them to Thomas, Lord Bruce, Earl of Ailesbury, by his marriage with Anne, sister and heiress of William Seymour, Duke of Somerset, in 1676, and is now the property of his descendant, Charles, the third and present Earl of Ailesbury, who has among his writings relative to the forest, several warrants to the keepers, signed by Queen Eleanor for the delivery of venison. The hand-writing is peculiarly beautiful.

Severnake forest, in respect to possession, is singular, being the only one in the kingdom belonging to a subject. Including *Tottenham Park*, the seat of the noble proprietor, it comprehends a space of ground about sixteen miles in circumference. The whole is intersected by numerous walks and avenues, eight of which diverge from a common centre, where the late Earl intended

tended to have erected an octagonal tower, the sides of which should correspond with the entrances to the several vistas. Unlike the generality of our ancient forests, this of Savernake abounds with wood, and particularly with fine old oaks, many of which are exceedingly large and majestic. One, called by way of pre-eminence, the "King oak," spreads its branches over an area sixty yards in diameter. No natural scenery can be imagined more picturesque and beautiful than that displayed in various parts of this umbrageous district, in which the diversity of hill and dale, wood and lawn, frequently offers the most interesting views for the exercise of the pictorial art. In the midst of the forest is a neat modern building, called *Savernake Lodge*, which was erected as a temporary residence for the present proprietor, when Lord Bruce.

**TOTTENHAM-PARK**, the seat of the noble Earl above mentioned, is situated near the south eastern extremity of the forest. The house is a brick building, consisting of a square centre, with two wings at each end. The centre was built under the direction of the Earl of Burlington, for a hunting seat, on the site of an ancient palace, which belonged to the Duke of Somerset, so famous for his attachment to Charles I. and which had been ruined in the civil wars. The state rooms are comprised in the wings, which were added when it was made a regular mansion. In the house are several portraits of the Seymour and Bruce families particularly:—A Head of Lady Jane Seymour:—a full length of Christian Bruce, Countess of Devonshire, by Vandyke:—the first Lord Bruce, the master of the rolls, who came from Scotland with King James I.:—a full length of Thomas, Earl of Elgin, by Cornelius Janson:—a full length of Robert, the first Earl of Ailesbury, the son of Thomas, Earl of Elgin, by Sir Peter Lely:—a Landscape by Gaspar Poussin, an old copy of the school of Athens:—a Sbozzo, by Baron, for his picture of the Burning of Troy, which was in the Borghesi Palace at Rome:—a picture of Sampson and Dalila, by Vandyke. In the library is an old pedigree  
of



of the Seymour family; and also a "curious *horn*, or elephant's tusk, in the shape of a horn." This is particularly described in the third volume of *Archæologia*, where a print of it, and of its ornaments is likewise given. It measures two feet in length, and five and a half inches in diameter, at its widest end, and is decorated with three gilt borders, and a mouth-piece displaying, in enamel, figures of men, deer, hawks, and other animals. In the centre of the largest border is represented an aged king with a long beard, sitting under a canopy, between a bishop on the one hand, and a forester, or bailiff on the other, and in the compartment opposite to the king sits a lion. When this was made, or whom the human figures upon it are intended to designate are questions to which no satisfactory answer has hitherto been suggested. Annexed to the horn is a belt made of green worsted, with buckles and hinges of silver gilt.

In the park opposite to the north front of this mansion, and at the distance of a mile, stands a lofty column with the following inscriptions, on opposite sides of the pedestal.

"This Column was erected by Thomas Bruce, Earl of Ailesbury, as a testimony of gratitude to his ever honoured uncle, Charles, Earl of Ailesbury, and Elgin, who left to him these estates, and procured for him the barony of Tottenham; and of loyalty to his most gracious sovereign George III. who, unsolicited, conferred upon him the honour of an earldom; but above all of piety to God, first, highest, best, whose blessing consecrateth every gift, and fixeth its true value, 1781."

"In commemoration of a signal instance of Heaven's providence over these kingdoms in the year 1789, by restoring to perfect health, from a long and afflicting disorder, our excellent and beloved sovereign George III. this tablet was inscribed by Thomas Bruce, Earl of Ailesbury."

This nobleman died in April 1814, at the advanced age of eighty-five. He was treasurer of his Majesty's household, and one of his Majesty's most honourable privy council. His lordship was brother to the late Duke of Montague, and Earl of Cardigan,

Cardigan, and was twice married: first to Susannah, widow of the late Viscount Dungarvon; and secondly to Lady Ann Elizabeth Rawdon. His only son *Charles*, the present Earl, succeeded to his lordship's titles and estates.

At a short distance south from Tottenham Park, is *WOLF-HALL*, formerly the seat of *Sir John Seymour*,\* father to Lady Jane Seymour, who was raised to the throne by King Henry VIII. This lady was maid of honour to her unfortunate predecessor, Queen Anne Boleyn, and was the only one of Henry's queens, who retained the royal affections till her death. Of the old house little is preserved except the kitchen, which is incorporated with the new mansion, and a detached building, in which tradition relates that the marriage of the sovereign was solemnized, and the wedding dinner served up. On that occasion it is added the apartment was hung with tapestry.

At *Easton*, a hamlet to the westward of Wolf-hall, was formerly an Hospital, or priory for canons of the Trinitarian order, for the redemption of captives. It was as ancient as the time of Henry III., and according to some authorities, was founded by King Stephen. At the Dissolution it was granted to Sir Edward Seymour, afterwards Duke of Somerset.

Northward from this forest, but close upon its boundary, is *MARTINSALL-HILL*, the summit of which is crowned with an immense entrenched work, commonly attributed to the Romans, and supposed by Stukeley to have been "one of their chief fortresses, whence they might give or receive signals all around, in case of distress." From its lofty position it is well calculated for defence, and can be seen at a great distance. The name of the hill on which it is placed is conjectured by the above mentioned antiquary to be derived from the merriment known among the northern people by the name of *Martinalia*, i. e. health drinking in memory of St. Martin.†

## GREAT

\* Of *Edward Seymour*, Duke of Somerset, and *Thomas Seymour*, Lord Admiral of England, both sons of Sir John Seymour, a curious account will be found in Lloyd's "State Worthies," Vol. I. 1766.

† Stukeley's Itinerary, p. 151.

## GREAT BEDWIN.

is an ancient borough and market town, situated at the distance of seventy miles west by south from London, and four miles south-east from Marlborough. It is of great antiquity, and is supposed by Dr. Stukeley to have been the Leucomagus of Ravennas. In Saxon times it was one of the chief cities in the west of England, having been the metropolis of Cissa viceroys of Berkshire and Wiltshire, under one of the kings of Wessex. This Cissa is said to have built a castle to the south of the town; which Gough is pleased to call Chisbury, and to accuse Stukeley of confounding with Copse-Castle, conjectured by the latter to have been a Roman fortress. Gough, however, in fact knew less of the matter than his predecessor, for had he even consulted the map he would found that Chisbury is situated to the north, and not to the south of Bedwin; and the slightest acquaintance with ancient castrametation would have taught him that it could not have been the site of a Saxon castle. If Cissa really erected a fortress here it was undoubtedly situated within the entrenchment called Copse Castle, the position of which, with respect to the town, corresponds with the record.

The only military event of importance which has happened here, was a battle fought in 675 between Escuin, King of Wessex, and Wulphere, King of Mercia, in which, after a desperate struggle, fortune declared against the latter; but the army of the former was so crippled that his success was wholly unavailing as to ulterior measures.\*

After the conquest, Great Bedwin retained many of the privileges it had enjoyed under the dominion of the Saxons. It was acknowledged to be a borough town by prescriptive right, and consequently was represented in Parliament *ab initio*, and has continued to be so ever since. It is now, however, but an insignificant place, the whole parish, according to the Parliamentary

\* Vide ante, p. 15.

mentary returns of 1811, only containing 173 houses, and 851 inhabitants, of whom above two-thirds resides in the hamlets of Crofton, Martin, Wilton, Wixcomb, East and West Grafton, Wolfhall, Stock, and Ford, all of which are comprehended in the parish. It nevertheless exercises many of its original rights, and in particular is governed by a portreeve, nominated annually by the steward of the manor, and approved by a jury consisting of thirteen inhabitants of the borough. The market is still nominally kept up on Tuesday weekly, and there are besides two annual fairs.

The *Church* of Great Bedwin is worthy of notice both on account of its antiquity and construction, and on account of the monuments which it contains. This edifice is chiefly built of flints, in the form of a cross, and consists of a nave, two side aisles, a chancel, and a north and south transept, with a square tower in the centre. The nave is divided by ten massive circular columns, supporting obtusely pointed arches, ornamented with zigzag and billeted mouldings. The capitals of the columns are richly adorned with sculptural representations of flowers, grotesque heads and other figures. The chancel is distinguished on each side by five lancet shaped windows, with trefoil heads, which argue its erection to have been posterior to the nave; and in the floor are still seen some fragments of the ancient pavement. The walls of the church are supported exteriorly by buttresses, three of which on the south side are of brick, and were erected in later times more effectually to secure the wall, which has subsided considerably from the perpendicular. In the windows here were formerly various representations on stained glass, but these are now altogether destroyed. Stukeley, however, has preserved the memory of one in the east window, which deserves notice from its singularity. This was the figure of a priest upon crutches, holding a cup in his hand, and having a Can at his feet. Beneath were the following lines in old French:

6

" I am Peris, vicar of this church,  
 Upon my crutches leaning just in this wise ;  
 My pouch in my fist, and I'll drink without guile,  
 My pot at my back set after the new mode ;  
 To my pot and my pouch I will have justice done,  
 For none shall drink without putting in as much again."

The monuments in this church are numerous, and some of them curious and interesting. In the south transept are two very ancient ones, traditionally said to commemorate *Adam de Stoke*, or *Stocre*, and *Roger de Stocre*. These monuments are formed by two large pointed niches, in one of which lies the recumbent figure of a knight in armour, with a lion at his feet, and a shield by his side, his hands grasping a sword. In the other niche are remains of brass plates, with a mutilated inscription round the rim, which Stukeley gives as follows: *Roger de Stocre, chev. ici gycht deu de sa alme cyt merci.*" \* On the left hand side of this monument is a curious piscina.

In the chancel is a handsome altar monument of marble, erected in honour of *Sir John Seymour*, who is represented in full armour, with a lion at his feet. The sides of this tomb are decorated with shields, and one of them displays the following inscription :

" Here lyeth interred the worthy SIR JOHN SEYMOUR, of Wolphall, who by Margery his wife, daughter of Sir Henry Wentworth, from whom the now Lord Wentworth is descended, had six sons and four daughters, to wete: John, who dyed unmarried, Edward, Duke of Somerset, Earle of Hertford, Viscount Beauchamp, and Baron Seymour, uncle to King Edward the Sixth, governor of his royal person, protector

\* Stukeley's Itinerary, p. 131. Leland, alluding to Great Bedwin, says, " The town is privileged with a burges at the Parliament, yet it is but a poore thinge to syght. There lieth in the church in the south isle one Adam Stoke, a famos man, another of that lyne by him under a flatte stone. The Stokes were Lords of Stoke Hauille ther by." Leland's Itinerary, Vol. VII. p. 78.

protector of all his dominions and subjects, Lord Treasurer, and Earle Marshall of Englande; which Duke married Anne, daughter of Sir Edward Stanhope, Knight, by Elisabeth, his wife, daughter of Sir Foulk Bourghier, Lord Fitzwaryn, from whom the modern Earles of Bathe are descended; Sir Henry Seymour, Knight, who married Barbara, daughter of Thomas Morgan, Esq.; Thomas, Lord Seymour of Sudeley, highe Admirall of England, who married Katharine, Queen of Englande, and widow of King Henry the Eighth; one other John, and Anthony, who died in their infancy; Jane, Queen of England, wife to King Henry eight, and mother to King Edward the sixt; Elisabeth first married to Henry Ughtred, Knight, after to Gregorie, Lord Cromwell, and last to John, Lord St. John of Basinge, after Marquesse of Winchester; Margery, who dyed in her infancy, and Dorothy married to Sir Clement Smythe.

This knight departed this life at LX yrs of age, the XXI day of December 1536, and was first buried at Easton Priory church, among divers of his ancestors both Seymours and Sturmes. Howbeit that church being ruined, and thereby all their monuments either wholly spoiled, or very much defaced, during the minority of Edward, Earl of Hertford, son to the said Duke, the said Earl, as well for the dutifull love he beareth to his said grandfather, as for the better continuance of his memory, did cause his body to be removed here, to be interred at his own cost and charge, the last day of September, An. 1590, in the 32d year of the most happy reign of our gracious sovereign Lady Queen Elisabeth."

In the same division of the church are two brass plates, one of which has an engraved figure of a lady with her hands folded, and is inscribed "Julia Seymour." The other is plain, with this inscription:

Bellocamp. eram graia genetrice Semerus

Tres habui, natos est quibus una soror.

“ Here lyeth the body of John Srymour, son and heir of Sir John Seymour, Knt. and of Margery oon of the daughters of Sir Henry Wentworth Knyght, which decesed the XV day of July, the yer of our Lord M,D,X, on whose soul Jhu have mercy, and of your charity say a paternoster and a Ave.”

Here is also a marble tomb against the north wall. It displays a bust of the deccased, and two naked boys, upon a pediment, with an inscription to the memory of “ Lady Frances Devereux, daughter of Robert, Earl of Essex, and widow of William, Duke of Somerset.” This monument was erected by Thomas, Viscount Weymouth, who married her graud-daughter Lady Francis Finch.

The lordship of this town, in ancient times, constituted part of the property of Gilbert, Earl of Clare, as is mentioned in a roll drawn up when he was about to espouse Anna, one of the daughters of Edward I. who was usually called Anna D'Aeres, because born at Acre, in Palestine. In what manner it came into the possession of the Stafford family is unknown; but in the tenth year of Richard II. it belonged to Hugh, Earl of Stafford, and continued to be enjoyed by his descendant till forfeited by the death and attainder of Henry, Duke of Buckingham, in the reign of Richard III. By that monarch it was bestowed on John Howard, Duke of Norfolk. In the last century it belonged to Lord Verney, who sold the burgage right to the late Earl of Ailesbury.

DR. THOMAS WILLIS, an eminent physician and medical writer in the seventeenth century, was born here on the 27th of January 1621. Having received the rudiments of education under a private teacher at Oxford, he became a member of Christ Church College, in 1636. He took his bachelor's degree in

1646. During the troubles of that period he bore arms for the king, but when the commonwealth was fully established he found it prudent to conform to the new order of things. His first published work was a "Treatise on Fermentations, Fevers, and Urines," which appeared in 1659; and in 1660, he was constituted Sedleian Professor of natural philosophy, and took the degree of Doctor of Physic. In 1666 he produced a work relative to the prevention and cure of the plague, which obtained for him so great celebrity in the metropolis, that he was induced to leave Oxford, and settle in Westminster; where he soon acquired the most extensive practice of any of his cotemporaries. About this time he became a member of the Royal Society, and was soon after elected one of the fellows of the College of Physicians, and appointed Physician in ordinary to King Charles II. That monarch highly satisfied with his conduct, offered to confer upon him the honour of knighthood, but the doctor declined the dignity, being, as is alledged, more anxious to realize a fortune for his children than to aggrandize himself. In the course of his life he published a variety of books, besides those mentioned, on physiology, and pathology in general; but particularly directed his investigations to the structure and functions of the brain, and nervous system. He likewise began a work on the operation of medicines, but died of pleurisy the day anterior to the publication of the second part, or volume, Nov. 11, 1673, in the fifty-fourth year of his age.\*

CASTLE HILL is a considerable eminence, situated to the south-east of Bedwin, on an open ground, called Wilton-Common, from the circumstance of its being attached to a village of that name. It comprehends between thirty and forty acres of ground, and has its summit crowned by an entrenchment, inclosing somewhat more than two acres. This, as we have already remarked, was the probable site of Cissa's castle, and in confirmation of that opinion we may add that extensive foundations of walls have been discovered within its area.



**CHISBURY CASTLE** is situated about a mile to the north of Bedwin. This entrenchment is double ditched, throughout its whole circumference, except for a few yards on its north-west and east sides, where the ditch is only single. The embankments appear to have been originally lofty; but they are now nearly levelled. The area within this earthen work is computed to exceed fifteen acres. By whom it was constructed it is impossible to determine with accuracy, but the most probable idea is that it was first a British stationary camp, and afterwards strengthened and occupied by the Romans. On the east side of this work formerly stood an ancient farm-house, and a chapel. The latter, now converted into a barn, measures fifty feet in length, and twenty in breadth, and has narrow lancet windows with trefoil heads.

**LITTLE BEDWIN**, a small village adjoining Great Bedwin, on the south-east is situated on the banks of a small rivulet, which flows into the Kennet, in the vicinity of Hungerford. The church here is an ancient edifice, chiefly built of flints, and consisting of a nave, two aisles, and a chancel, with a tower at the west end. The arches both in the nave and chancel are round, and are clearly of Anglo-Norman origin. In the chancel on a flat ornamented stone is the following inscription:

“Hic juxta jacent Corpora tam EDMUNDI HUNGERFORD  
de Chisbury Armigeri quam Elisabethæ Uxoris ejus filiæ  
Johannis Wither, de Mamdowne in Com. Southam. qua.  
obiit 4to. Die Januarii, Anno Dni 1655, Ætatis suæ 63. ille  
decessit 18 die Decembris 1659, Ætatis suæ. 78.”

**FROXFIELD** is a long scattered village, situated on the road from London to Bath, at the distance of about three miles west from the town of Hungerford. It chiefly claims our notice on account of its much celebrated *almshouse*, which owes its foundation to the munificent bequest of Sarah, widow of John, fourth Duke

**Duke of Somerset.** That lady by will, dated in 1686, devised considerable landed property, and other funds, in order to erect a suitable building for the accommodation of thirty widows, who were to receive a certain yearly allowance, and were to be increased to fifty in number as soon as the revenues of the trust came to exceed 400*l.* per annum. This having accordingly happened, in 1775, twenty additional apartments were then added to the former buildings, which having been originally planned with a view to augmentation, the whole structure now forms an oblong quadrangle, surrounding a court, with a small chapel in the interior. The persons entitled to this charity are thirty widows of clergymen, and twenty widows of laity, not having an income above twenty pounds a year: the former are eligible from any part of England, but the latter from Wiltshire only. Originally the allowance to each was only six pounds per annum; but was gradually augmented, and since the year 1801, has been twenty guineas, so that the inmates are enabled to live in a very comfortable manner. The government of this establishment is vested in twelve trustees, chosen from the nobility and gentry of the county, who nominate a steward, chaplain, apothecary, and porter. The chaplain has a yearly stipend of seventy pounds, from the trust funds, and also holds the rectory of Hewish, which yields him about 150*l.* more. A bird's eye view of this almshouse, and some account of the institution, with the inscription over the gateway, are given in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1801. Part I.

**CHILTON-FOLIOT** is a village situated about a mile to the north-west of Hungerford, in a parish of the same name, which lies partly in Berkshire, and contains, according to the Parliamentary returns of 1811, 107 houses, and 605 inhabitants. The manor here soon after the Conquest, belonged to the Folliots, a family of great eminence in these days, which became extinct in the male line in the reign of Richard I. when a female heir obtained possession of their estates, though not with-

out her title being disputed. It subsequently came into the possession of Warine de Lisle, by his marriage with Alice, sister and heir of Henry de Teyes. This Warine procured a charter of free warren for all his demesne lands here; but having engaged with the barons against the Despensers, the king's favourites, he was hanged as a traitor, and his estates were confiscated to the Crown. Upon that event this manor was given to his enemy Hugh Despenser, who, in his turn suffered death, when the barons became so powerful as to defy the royal displeasure. Chilton, in consequence reverted to Gerard Fitzwarine (son of the above Warine) who was elevated to the dignity of Lord Lisle. He died seised of it in the fifty-first year of Edward III. and left it to Margaret, his daughter and heir, then married to Thomas, Lord Berkeley. The issue of this marriage was an only daughter, Elisabeth, who conveyed all her mother's estates to her husband, Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick. In his family Chilton continued through several successions, and was at length sold to Thomas Sutton, Esq. who bequeathed it towards endowing his noble foundation, the Charter-House, London.

The living of this parish has long been held by Dr. Popham, a descendant of the Popham family, of Littlecott. In the adjoining church, which is small, is an ancient effigy of a cross-legged knight, in chain armour, said to commemorate one of the Foliois. Here is also a marble slab to the memory of BULTRODE WHITELOCKE, who died July 1, 1737, aged fifty-nine. He was a descendant of Judge Whitelocke, and nearly the last of the family. In the cemetery is a large architectural tomb, raised over a vault of the Pearse family. It was designed by William Pilkington, Esq. architect. Chilton parish has been recently enclosed, by which means the value of the living has increased to about 900*l.* a year.

Adjoining Chilton are two seats called CHILTON HOUSE, and Chilton Lodge. The former, which stands nearest the village, was formerly the property of Lovelace Bigg, Esq. and is now





possessed by Fulwar Craven, Esq. CHILTON-LODGE stands in Berkshire, on an eminence, about one mile from the village. The old house was the property of Sir Bulstrode Whitelocke, a general in the Parliamentary army, and confidential secretary to Oliver Cromwell, who, wearied with the toil of ambition, retired hither previous to the Restoration, and died here July 28, 1675. One of the descendant's of Sir Bulstrode, sold the estate to Governor Holwell, who was the last survivor of those unfortunate gentlemen who were confined in Calcutta Hole. By him it was sold to the late General Smith, who disposed of it to a Mr. Macnamara about the year 1784. Shortly afterwards it was purchased by Messrs. Hammersley and Co. bankers, London; and by them was conveyed to John Pearse, Esq. The present mansion was built from the designs of William Pilkington, Esq. architect. The annexed print shews the southern front.

LITTLECOT-PARK, the seat of Major-General Edward Leybourne Popham, is situated to the westward of Chilton-Foliot, being partly in that parish, and partly in the parish of Ramsbury. In ancient times it was the property and residence of the family of ~~the~~ Darells, some of whose intermarriages with other families we have had occasion to notice in different preceding pages. By one them of it was sold to Sir John Popham, Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, in the reigns of Queen Elizabeth, and of James I. whose descendants in the male line continued to possess it, till the present proprietor \* obtained it by will.

The family of the Pophams is very ancient, and of great note. They were first raised to the rank of nobility by the Empress Matilda and her son Henry the second. One of them was styled, by his offices: "Chaucelar of Normandy, Capitaine of Verniole, of Perche, of Susan, and Bayon, Tresorer of the King's household." His corpse was buried in the Charter House Church, London,

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and

\* This gentleman is son of Edward Leybourne, Esq. who was Governor of Grenada in 1772, by Ann, daughter, of Edward Popham, Esq. He changed his name to Popham upon coming to this estate.

and his image was fixed over the door of St. Sepulchre's church in the same city, he having contributed considerable sums towards its erection. He left "a very great treasure in straunge coyns," which we suppose was expended in the purchase of the vast estates possessed by his family in subsequent ages.\* Sir John Popham, the chief justice abovementioned, was among the most eminent of his descendants, having adorned his high station equally by his abilities and his integrity. He was a native of Huntworth, in Somersetshire, and, in the latter part of his life, retired to Wellington, in that county, where he built a large and elegant house. At his death, which happened in 1607, he was interred in Wellington church. His only publication was a folio volume of "Cases and Reports," which are considered by lawyers to be replete with legal knowledge.

Littlecot-Park comprehends an area of about four miles in circumference, and is adorned with groups of various kinds of trees. On one side of it rises a lofty hill, crowned with wood, and forming a fine contrast with the luxuriant and level meadows spread along the banks of the river Kennet. A branch of this river runs through the garden, and there constitutes a preserve for trout, which may be taken with the greatest facility. The house is an ancient and spacious building, erected by one of the Darells in the early part of the 16th century, "about the time of the termination of feudal warfare, when defence came no longer to be an object in a country mansion." Considerable alterations are making to the house by the present possessor. The interior, however, still preserves many features of the feudal ages. The great hall is very spacious, floored with stones, and lighted by large and very lofty windows. It measures 46 feet in length, by 24 in width, and 25 in height. Its walls are hung with numerous relics of ancient armour, as coats of mail, helmets, cross-bows, old fashioned pistols, carbines, leathern jerkins, and other defensive and offensive accoutrements. In it is a large oak table, reaching nearly from one extremity of the hall to the other, at which, in days of yore,

\* Vide Leland's Itinerary, Vol. VI, p. 35.

yore, the vassals were feasted at the expence of their lord. The remainder of the furniture is in a snitable style, particularly an arm-chair, which is said to have been used by Sir John Popham abovementioned. It is constructed of wood, curiously turned, and has a very lofty back, and a triangular seat. Here is also a pair of elk's horns, measuring seven feet six inches from tip to tip. The entrance into the hall is by a low door, communicating with a passage leading into an interior court. A door also opens to a staircase, which conducts to the first floor, whence, after passing the doors of several bed-rooms, the visitor enters a gallery about 110 feet in length, hung with numerous portraits, chiefly in the Spanish dresses of the sixteenth century.\* Among these

\* The following strange and mysterious story is recorded in a note to Scott's Poem of Rokeby, and is traditionally said to refer to an old bedroom in this house.—“It was on a dark rainy night in the month of November, that an old midwife sate musing by her cottage-fire, when, on a sudden, she was startled by a loud knocking at the door; on opening it, she found a horseman, who told her that her assistance was required immediately, by a person of rank, and that she should be handsomely rewarded, but that their were reasons for keeping the affair a profound secret; and therefore she must submit to be blindfolded, and to be conducted in that manner to the bed-chamber of the lady. With some hesitation, the midwife consented, the horseman bound her eyes, and placed her on a pillion behind him. After proceeding in silence for many miles through rough and dirty lanes, they stopped, and the midwife was led into a house, which, from the length of her walk through the apartments, as well as the sounds about her, she discovered to be the seat of wealth and power.—When the bandage was removed from her eyes, she found herself in a bed chamber, in which was the lady on whose account she had been sent for, and a man of haughty and ferocious aspect. The lady was delivered of a fine boy. Immediately he demanded the midwife to give him the child, and catching it from her, he hurried across the room, and threw it on the back of the fire that was blazing in the chimney. The child, however, was strong, and by its struggles rolled itself out upon the hearth, when the ruffian again seized it with fury, and, in spite of the intercession of the midwife, and the more piteous intreaties of the mother, thrust it under the grate, and raking the live coals upon it, soon put an end to its life. The midwife, after spending some time in  
affording



these are portraits of Judge Popham : and Nell Gwyn, by Verelst. Here is also a curious piece of needle-work, representing a large *Roman tessellated pavement*, which was discovered in the adjoining park. It was first noticed in 1728 by Mr. George, steward to Edward Popham, Esq. the then possessor of Littlecot. By that gentleman a coloured drawing was made of it, and communicated to the Society of Antiquaries, who ordered it to be engraved, by Vertue; and requested professor Ward to furnish a description of it, to accompany the plate. This pavement measured 41 feet in length, by 33 in breadth, and seems to have formed the floor of a temple. It consisted of two divisions, the templum and sacrarium, answering to the nave and chancel of our churches. The templum, or outer part, which was nearly square, was ornamented with a compartment of figures inlaid, in the centre of which was a large two-handled cup, supported by two sea-monsters with fishes tails; and behind each a dolphin, and two conchæ, or shell-fish; probably in allusion to Neptune. Opposite was a border, with a similar cup, supported by two tigers. This is conjectured by some to have referred to Bacchus, whose chariot is feigned

affording relief to the wretched mother, was told she must be gone. Her former conductor appeared; and conveyed her behind him to her own home; he then paid her handsomely and departed. The midwife was strongly agitated by the horrors of the preceding night; and she immediately made a deposition of the fact before a magistrate. Two circumstances afforded hope of detecting the house in which the crime had been committed; one was, that the midwife, as she sat by the bed-side, had, with a view to discover the place, cut out a piece of the bed-curtain, and sown it in again: the other was, that as she had descended the staircase, she had counted the steps. Some suspicions fell upon one Darell, at that time the proprietor of Littlecot-House, and the domain around it. The house was examined and identified by the midwife, and Darell was tried at Salisbury for the murder. By corrupting his judge he escaped the sentence of the law; but broke his neck by a fall from his horse a few months after. The place where this happened is still known by the name of Darell's stile—a spot to be dreaded by the peasant whom the shades of evening have overtaken on his way." With the above tale of terror Mr. Scott has connected another story of a similar kind, which was current at Edinburgh during his youth.

feigned to have been drawn by tigers; but others think it was emblematical of Ceres, who was represented in one character as a Fury. The floor of the sacrarium was a square, inclosing a circle. Within the larger circle was a smaller one, in which was a figure of Apollo playing on his harp; and, in four surrounding compartments, four female figures, representing the Horæ, or Seasons, riding at full speed on four different animals. One was exhibited holding a flower in her hand, and seated on a deer, to denote spring; the second appeared seated on a panther, and holding a swan, as an emblem of summer; the third, who rested her arms on a branch, apparently of a vine, rode on a bull, for autumn; and the fourth, seated on a goat, without any thing in her hand, denoted the barrenness of winter. It may be further added that the two former of these figures appeared naked down to the waist, as representing the warmth of spring and summer; whereas the two latter were wholly covered, except their arms, to indicate the cold of winter. Exterior to the circle enclosing them were three compartments, each displaying a face of the sun, omitting bright and extended rays in the form of a semicircle. From all these circumstances, it is evident that Apollo was the principal deity worshipped in this temple; but as the figures in ~~the~~ outer part related also to Neptune and Bacchus, or Ceres, it may perhaps not improbably be esteemed a sort of pantheon.

Another smaller Roman *Pavement*, and a curious *Cup*, or *patera*, of brass, were discovered by Mr. George, on Rudge Farm, adjoining the northern boundary of Littlecot-park. The cup was adorned with foliage, and was inscribed thus: "Amais, Aballana, Uxeloduno, Ambloganus, Banna." Concerning its use, several conjectures have been offered, but none of them are very satisfactory. That of Gale, however, has the merit of plausibility as well as of ingenuity. This antiquary supposes it to have been a *patera* used in libations by the ancients when they met together on any solemn occasion, or for the purposes of mirth and feasting; and he conceives that the inscription indicates that the inhabitants of the five towns, or stations, it mentions, had established

blished an annual feast, at which they made their libations out of one common patera, as a testimony of friendship and unanimity.\*

PICKEDFIELD, which formerly constituted part of Littlecot domain, was purchased, in 1803, by government, for the purpose of establishing a *Depot* for the interior. It includes about forty acres of ground, on which are erected three magazines, capable of containing nearly 11,000 barrels of gunpowder; also a mixing-house for the powder, storehouses, apartments for the labourers employed upon the establishment, barracks for a detachment of the military, and houses for a storekeeper and a clerk of the cheque. At Knyghton, a small hamlet on the north bank of the Kennet, near Littlecot Park, is an ancient encampment, which does not appear to have been noticed in any published work.

RAMSBURY is a village situated to the westward of Littlecot, at the distance of six miles east from the town of Marlborough. When Plegmund, Archbishop of Canterbury, about the year 909, constituted Wiltshire a distinct bishopric, the two first bishops of that See fixed their seat at this place; but the third bishop removed his residence to Wilton; and his example seems to have been followed by his successors. Ramsbury church, however, most probably continued to be the cathedral church of the diocese till after the Conquest, when Herman having prevailed upon King William to unite the bishoprics of Sherborne and Wiltshire into one, established the seat of his new diocese at Old Sarum.† Hence the church here is still considered as the mother church to Salisbury cathedral. The present building is a large and spacious structure, divided into a nave, two aisles, and a chancel, with a massive tower, supported by bold buttresses at one end. In the chancel is a very old monument of Purbeck marble, without any inscription; and on the floor is a long stone, adorned with tracery work, which, according to tradition,

\* "Britannia Romana." By John Harsley, M. A., and F. R. S.

† Vide ante, p. 28.

dition, covers the grave of a giant. Here are likewise some stones to the memory of the *Jones's*, of Ramsbury Park; also one to the sister of Sir Francis Burdet. In the south aisle are several monuments to commemorate the Reads, of Crowood; and, in the north aisle, is a small marble tablet, inscribed thus:

“Here lye the bodys of Jeff. Dariell, and W<sup>m</sup> his son,  
(the last of the ancient family of Daresbury, in Cheshire,  
who came into Wilts in Henry VIII time) of St. Margaret,  
Esq. both members of parliament for Marlbro. y<sup>e</sup> father of  
the 1st Parliament after K<sup>s</sup> Ch. y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>d</sup>s restoration, who was  
also of the convention for the restor<sup>r</sup> of the s<sup>d</sup> K<sup>s</sup>; the son,  
of the 1<sup>st</sup> Triennial Parlt<sup>e</sup> began the 7<sup>th</sup> of K<sup>s</sup> W<sup>m</sup> 3<sup>d</sup>. Jeff.  
died April 2. 1681 W<sup>m</sup> April 25, 1697.”

Adjoining to Ramsbury is RAMSBURY-MANOR, long the seat of the family of Jones, and now the property of Sir Francis Burdet, Baronet, in right of his mother, second daughter to the late William Jones, Esq. son of \* \* \* Jones, Esq. sometime attorney-general, who purchased the estate from one of the Earl's of Pembroke. The house was built from designs by John Webb, nephew to Inigo Jones, the father of classical architecture in this country. It is a handsome building, situated on the north bank of the river Kennet, which flows through the middle of the inclosures, and forms in its passage a beautiful island, by dividing itself into two branches, one of which is spread out into a lake. These grounds abound with wood, and rise from the sides of the river in easy, sloping lawns. Many improvements were effected in their arrangement, and ornamented by the late Lady Jones, the eldest sister of Sir Francis Burdet's mother. Among other changes, that lady threw a bridge over the river, and built a handsome entrance gateway into the park.

*Crawood*, or *Crowood*, the seat of the Read family, is situated about a mile and a half to the north-east of Ramsbury. It is now the property of General Read. Adjoining to it, on the north, is *Marriage-Hill-House*, formerly belonging to the family of Whitelocke.



which breeds in vast numbers in this district. When the chace was established is uncertain, though it is probable that event took place either before, or soon after the Conquest. It continued annexed to the Crown as late as the reign of Henry VIII. who granted the manor to the Duke of Somerset: and is thus mentioned in the "Ordinances of Royal Households," p. 316:—"Among the forestes and parkes of the prince's not disparked, and under his highness's government, is Alborne Chace, in Wiltshire, in a maner disafforested by reason of the warren of conyes, these being in lease for a long time."

### AVEBURY, OR ABURY.

a village and parish, about five miles west from Marlborough, has very peculiar claims on the attention and examination of the Antiquary; for at this place are the ruins of the most gigantic, and most interesting of our ancient British monuments. Works of art, as well as the productions of nature, are great, or small, important, or trivial, beautiful or ugly, by comparison. To understand and appreciate an unknown object, it is necessary to compare it with one that bears some analogy to it, and with which the mind is familiar. In order, therefore, to shew the magnitude and peculiar characteristics of the aboriginal British Temple at Avebury, it will be expedient to remark, that, in its pristine state, it may be classed with Stonehenge:—Stanton-Drew:—the Hurlers:—Long Meg and her daughters, and various other stone monuments in Cornwall, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Brittany, &c. but that it surpassed all these in the number and magnitude of its upright stones,—its vallum and fosse,—and its collateral appendages. But although it originally surpassed Stonehenge in magnitude, and is probably of much greater antiquity, yet it has failed to attract the same degree of attention and notoriety which attaches to that much famed monument. This is to be accounted for by the relative situations, and appearances

ances of the two structures. Stonehenge being placed on a commanding and conspicuous spot; in the midst of an open plain; near a populous city; and in sight of three public turnpike-roads, has engaged the notice of travellers; and many essays and volumes have been published respecting it. Besides which is the circumstance of its having large and ponderous stones raised on the tops of the uprights. Popular wonderment and vulgar superstition have also been roused and actively exercised by this monument. On the other hand, that of Avebury has been progressively encroached upon, and destroyed by the farmers and inhabitants of a village, formed within its area: is obscured by trees, hedges, and houses; is in a low situation, and is not to be seen, as a whole, from any station. Exclusively of Dr. Stukeley's folio volume, which is scarce and expensive, there has been but very little published about it. Yet, as an object of remote antiquity; and as a monument of the peculiar rites and customs of a people, whose history and manners are now unknown, it constitutes an important and truly interesting subject for antiquarian and historical investigation. It will therefore be our object to describe the present features of this place; point out the original form and extent of the temple, and then offer a few remarks on its pristine appropriation and purpose. Without plans and views it will not be easy to define the form and arrangement of the whole, and convey explicit information on this subject. In the midst of a large tract of flat country, bounded by a continued, but irrisuous ridge of hills to the east, another more lofty to the south, and various inequalities to the west, all sloping in the western direction, is the village of Avebury, the greater part of which is encircled by a deep and wide ditch, and a lofty vallum. Within the enclosure are some very large stones standing erect, and several others lying on the ground. At some distance, south of the village, are other large stones standing, and prostrate: and, about half a mile west of the vallum are two more, erect. Some of the houses and walls of the village are constructed with large masses of these broken stones; and although

though modern economy and customs have infringed on, and greatly defaced the pristine character of this sacred and hallowed spot, yet there are many objects remaining to excite curiosity and awaken research. In its original state, this great temple must have presented a singular and impressive appearance. A large flat area of ground was surrounded by a broad ditch, and a lofty vallum; and the latter was raised on the outside of the former, with a terrace, or lodge, made about at the middle of its inner slope. This ridge appears to have been intended for a walk, or standing place for spectators to overlook the whole of the interior area. In this respect it partly resembles the Roman amphitheatres at Dorchester and Silchester. Immediately within the ditch, and encompassing the whole area was a continued series of large upright stones, consisting of one hundred in number. These stones were placed at the distance of twenty-seven feet from each other, and usually measured from fifteen to seventeen feet in height, and about forty feet in circumference. Within the area of this circle, the diameter of which was about 1400 feet, were two double circles, each consisting of two concentric circles, and comprising the same number of stones, and displaying the same manner of arrangement. Both of the exterior circles were about 466 feet in diameter, formed by thirty stones of similar dimensions, and equally distant from each other, as in the large inclosing circle. The inner ones consisted of twelve stones of like proportions, and had like intervening spaces; and the diameter of their area was 186 feet. In the interior of the southern concentric circle, was an upright stone of larger size than any of the others; as it measured more than twenty feet in height; and within the northern one was a group of stones, which has been variously termed a nebla, niche, or cove. This was formed of three stones, placed perpendicularly, and having a large flat stone for an impost, which appears to have measured originally about seventeen feet by thirty-five. Near this on the ground, lay a large flat stone, towards the east, or rather north-



cast, like that called the hearth-stone at Stonehenge. There were two entrances into the grand circle, one from the south-east, and the other from the south-west. These were approached by two avenues, or double rows of upright stones, extending a mile in length, and each formed by one hundred stones, placed at nearly equal intervals. One of these avenues, which stretched itself in a south-east direction to Overton, had at its further extremity a double concentric circle, of smaller dimensions than those already mentioned; the stones being disposed at shorter intervals. The outer division of this circle was formed of forty stones, (most of which were about five feet high) and its inner portion of eighteen stones of a larger size. The diameter of the former was 120 feet, and that of the latter forty-five. The other avenue, which extended south-west to Beckhampton, had at its termination only a single large upright stone, which was lately standing, and near which there are several large barrows. On the northern side of this avenue, at the fiftieth stone, was a group of three stones, resembling the cove already described. Two of these stones yet remaining measure sixteen feet high, sixteen feet broad, and three feet and a half thick, and are vulgarly denominated the Devil's Coits.

Such was the construction and form of the Temple at Avebury, which, according to Stukeley, consisted originally of 650 stones; independently of a large cromlech, about a mile to the north, the vast barrow, called Silbury Hill, and numerous others surrounding it; all apparently connected with, and appertaining to the work. Most of these, however, have been broken to pieces, by means of fire and manual labour; and the dissevered fragments appropriated to the erection of walls and houses, and the formation of roads. In 1722, only forty remained of the great circle, of which number seventeen were standing; but in 1802, they were reduced to eighteen. In 1716, the double concentric circles were nearly entire, but in 1723, eight stones only remained of the northern circle, and fourteen of the southern. Of the Beckhampton, or south-western avenue, which in 1722, consisted of numerous  
stones

stones, two only remain; but of the south-eastern avenue, which at the same period had seventy-two stones standing, ten or twelve are yet in existence.

Having thus endeavoured to point out, and describe the plan, extent, and arrangement, of the British temple at this place; and also noticed its present state of defalcation, and ruin, it becomes requisite to offer a few remarks on its probable origin, and pristine destination. In doing this we shall narrate the opinions of a learned correspondent,\* who has diligently, and acutely studied the subject of British monuments generally, and has paid particular attention to those of Stonhenge and Avebury.

“Of the date and occasion of Stonhenge, you have already published the only account that is supported by probability. The story in the Welch *Chronicles* is evidently involved in gross fiction; and I regard those compilations as no historical authority: but amidst the Armorican *romances* which they comprise, many *facts* are interspersed; which may be distinguished by their analogy to authentic records, or to inferences naturally deduced from them, as well as to indications from remaining monuments.

“STONEHENGE has nothing about it implying a higher antiquity than the age of *Aurelius Ambrosius*, but the circle and oval of upright stones, which perfectly resemble our numerous Druidical temples, from Cornwall to Cumberland. *These* parts alone of the structure, therefore, I consider as *Druidical*; and I apprehend that these alone were standing, when the Saxons assassinated the British chiefs, assembled with them, on that spot, at a Council Feast. No authentic account of that period opposes the probability that Ambrosius *might* erect there a durable monument, in memory of his countrymen, and of the cruel treachery of their invaders. Nothing is more likely, than, that he would, if he had opportunity, adopt *such* means of animating the Britons to perseverance in so wearisome a contest: and certainly nothing could

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have

\* The Rev. Samuel Greatheed, in a letter to J. Britton. This gentleman has evinced much research and intelligence, in a paper on the original population of this island. See *Archæologia*, Vol. XVI.

have been better suited to the purpose, than such an erection as *Stonchenge*; which might equally sustain the violence of enemies, and the lapse of ages. The zeal of his numerous followers would carry them through the requisite labour. The pattern of the *Romans* was sufficient to supply the *mechanical powers* which it demanded; and it is so obvious an imitation of their *architecture*, that INIGO JONES, who had well studied the subject, supposed it to be *their* performances. The *plan* was regulated by that of the original Druidical structure; the outer stones of which, must have been partly removed, to admit the *Trilithons*; but would, of course, be replaced. The rough squaring, the continued impost, and the mortices and tenons by which they are secured to the standards, are not only *unlike* every work of the Druids, but incompatible with their *principles*. Add to this, the discovery of Roman *Coins* beneath some of the larger stones, implies their position not to have been earlier than the date assigned by the tradition. All other hypotheses on the subject are totally conjectural; and to me they appear as improbable in themselves, as they are irreconcilable with each other.

“ It is, I believe, agreed by the best lithologists, that the larger members of *Stonchenge* are *Sarsens*, similar to those called the *Grey-wethers*, which, in innumerable places, protrude above the soil, between *Marlborough* and *AVEBURY*; and therefore were probably transported thence. Of these, the immense upright stones yet remaining at the latter place, are well known to consist. Their colour and surface greatly vary; and their substance is in very different degrees of amalgamation; the shells, pebbles, and sand, of which they are composed, being in some still perfectly distinct. The superior hardness of those at *Avebury*, is a fact, for which better naturalists than myself could probably be able to account. An objection to the transportation of them from that vicinity to *Stonchenge*, on account of the intervention of the stupendous bulwark called *Wansdike*, appears to me groundless. The conjecture, that this was the work of the *Belgæ*, is probable; because its *fosse* seems to have been partly filled

filled up, to form the *Roman* road, where they join, above the village of Calston. I examined the spot after parting with you in 1812. Stonchenge, therefore, was not likely to be constructed with materials brought from Avebury, while Wansdike remained the boundary between the Belgæ and the *Llogrian* Britons: but their mutual independence and hostility must have sunk, under the oppression of the Romans, for four centuries; and consequently could be no hindrance to the execution of Ambrosius's design. Its *magnitude* was probably suggested by that of the wonderful structure at Avebury. No one, I believe, ever questioned the incomparably higher antiquity of the latter. While the *Triads*\* and the *Chronicles* agree to fix the date of Stonehenge later than moderns are willing to admit, not the faintest gleam of light is thrown on that of Avebury, either by British history or romance.

"Here, therefore, we are left to conjecture; but, happily, not without ground for its support. This magnificent structure, though surprisingly dilapidated, was nevertheless so entire when

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Stukeley

"\* The *TRIADS* consist of a title and three lines, exhibiting three persons, tribes, works, actions, &c. in one point of comparison. The *HISTORICAL TRIADS*, published in the *Welsh Archaeology*, appear to me to be genuine relics of early British history, originally preserved *memoriter*, long restricted to the *Druidical* order, and not committed to writing till Christianity had nearly extirpated its votaries. *Gildas* knew nothing of them; and *Aennius* only as they had already been disguised by Romanizing Britons. The Welsh, however, continued *Triadizing* till the 11th century. The *Armorican Romances* (of whose stories the *Chronicle* paraphrased by Geoffrey of Monmouth, is a tissue, connected by the help of old pedigrees,) evidently knew many facts recorded by the *Triads*, but either omitted, or disguised them, in order to suit their own fabrications, in which British history is perpetually *Romanized*. Before these historical romances, I believe the Britons had no records but the *Triads*, the internal evidences of which are the strongest possible, although they have evidently received surreptitious additions, and false illustrations, from successive transcribers and collectors. By comparing what I now say of them, with the notice I have taken of them in my *letters* to the Society of Antiquaries, you may see the progress of my opinions about them."

Stukeley began his survey, that, with the assistance, of his work its complete plan may yet be verified.

“ This, you know, consists of a *circle*, a quarter of a mile in diameter, *two smaller concentric circles*, all formed by upright stones, as large as any at Stonehenge, and some of much greater size. The outer circle is surrounded by a wide *fosse*, and this by a lofty *mound* of earth. Two *avenues*, each formed with parallel rows of similar stones, extended, in serpentine lines, to the distance of a mile south-eastward and south-westward from the outer circle ; and, at the former of these, terminated in small *concentric circles* of similar stones, which Dr. Stukeley called the *head of the snake*.\* This has now totally disappeared ; and the south-western avenue very nearly ; but, at the south-eastern, enough remains to confirm Dr. Stukeley’s delineation of it.

“ The plan of the circles within the rampart closely resembles that of many Druidical temples ; and of this description, Dr. Stukeley considered the structure at Avebury to be, notwithstanding its unequalled extent, and the essential differences of the nature and magnitude of the stones with which it is formed. All the Druidical circles that I have seen, are constructed with granite, from four to seven feet high, in forms roughly columnar or pyramidal. But the surrounding rampart at Avebury constitutes a still more striking incongruity. Druidical temples have never more than a slight mound around them, seemingly designed to distinguish the limits of the consecrated ground : while that of Avebury has the appearance of a formidable bulwark, like Wansdike. That this was not constructed for purposes of defence, is, notwithstanding, certain, from the ditch being excavated within, instead of being outside of the rampart. The only use to which it seems adapted is that of an amphitheatre, to seat, on the inner slope of the rampart, a concourse of spectators, or auditors, of what was transacted in the area. If prepossession on the subject did not deceive me, the vestiges of steps, in rows  
one

\* I do not advert to his theory of *Dracontia*, or Snake Temples, because it seems to me irrelevant.

one above another, are still in some parts perceptible. So far are the Druidical temples from appearing to have furnished such accommodation, that their position, on, or near the summit of the highest ground, rendered it impossible for surrounding crowds to survey them. At Avebury, on the contrary, though placed in a hollow between moderate hills, the founders employed labour and skill for that purpose.

- “ The causes which I have assigned, lead me to doubt whether Avebury was constructed for religious use : but if that use was made of it, it seems nearly certain that its leading design was different. The most likely was that of a *national convention*, for which its geographical situation is suitable; the *Cymry* from Wales, and the *Lloegrwys* from the south and east of England, easily assembling there. The *third* tribe of the original Britons, called *Brython*, being fewer, and probably dispersed over the lowlands of Scotland, might perhaps be deemed incapable of appearing, otherwise than by deputation, on any spot that could be convenient to the earlier colonists of Britain. I suppose the eastern avenue to have been the entrance of the chiefs in procession to the convention; and the concentric circles at its extremity to have served as a vestibule.

“ If this hypothesis on the original purpose of the work at Avebury be admitted, it may afford some assistance for nearly determining the most probable date of its construction. Its marks of antiquity are such, that there does not seem much danger in placing this as early as the only authentic fragments of ancient British history will allow. I refer to the *historical Triads*, published in the *Archæology of Wales*.\* These assure us, that the

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three

\* The view given of the first people of Britain in the Triads differs materially from that in the Chronicles : “ according to the former, the first inhabitants of Britain were of *three* correlative migrations, successively, from Gaul. The *Cymry*, (Cumry) or Welsh, came first, seemingly to give place to the *Celtic*, (or German,) invaders of Gaul; and withdrew to the west side of England, probably to get as far as they could from danger of being

three original tribes of Britons, so far from being (as the *Chronicles* pretend,) united under *one* monarch from the beginning, were never brought into confederation till the time of *Prydain* who is said to have reigned in the course of the fifth century before the Christian era, and about two centuries after the first population of Britain. His *name*, in consequence of his extending the benefits of a regular government through our island, devolved to it; the Welsh calling it *Prydain* to this day. To such a legislator, the construction of Avebury may, perhaps, be assigned, with at least equal probability, as to any of his known successors. His existence, and his unparalleled eminence, are testified by the numerous *Triads*, in which his name is introduced, on account of various excellencies ascribed to him, and national benefits derived from him. It is, therefore, not unnatural, to suppose, that the sublime tumulus, called by the Saxons, *Silbury*, within sight of Avebury, and central to its avenues, was raised for his sepulture.

“ Dr. Stukeley would assign these honours to a predecessor of *Prydain*, of whom nothing more than his name is known, and that only

being pursued. They came from Picardy and Flanders, and left there part of the tribe, whose resistance of the Celts was probably the occasion of their assuming the denominations of *Brythen*, (Bruthen) or Warriors. The second migration was from a very numerous and extensive tribe of the same nation, (the *Cynetes*, commonly called Iberians,) which occupied the banks of the Loire, or *Ligar*, and those of the Rhone, whence they spread to Genoa, under the Latinized name of *Ligures*, the Greeks calling them, less accurately, *Αἰγες*. The Welsh call them *Lloegwys*, (pronounced Hloegwniss) and to this day call *England*, *Lloegr*, because it was chiefly occupied by that migration, whence the old Cornish descended. The third migration was the chief part of the *Brythen*, (see above) probably when the *Belgæ* wrested the north of Gaul from the Celts. The remainder submitted to the *Belgæ*, but continued distinct from them, about Boulogne, in the time of Pliny, who calls them *Britanni*. They seem to have occupied all the lowlands of *Scotland*, till reduced by the *Caledonians*, (called by the Welsh *Celydden*, pronounced *Keltudhon* (sounded *thon*) who were Celts, that is, *Germans*, ancestors of the modern Scots.” The Welsh *Chronicles* confound the above three migrations into one.

only through the Chronicles. He was led to this conjecture merely from the resemblance of the name *Cynedda*, to that of the river Kennet (or *Kunnet*), which rises near Avebury; and to that which the Romans are supposed to have assigned to Marlborough, *Cunetio*. But if this ingenious antiquary had been aware, that the title common to the original tribes of Britons was *Cynct*, (pronounced Kunnet) he would probably have traced these very ancient appellations to a nobler source—to the assembled nation at Avebury, and to the *Cyneta* of Herodotus; who, in his time, possessed the western coasts of Spain and Gaul, and migrated thence to Britain.

“ I doubt, however, whether, in later times, when a military sovereign was chosen by the British nation, to make head against its Roman invaders, Avebury did not receive the name of the reigning chieftain. The *Brut Tysilio*, in connection with the construction of Stonehenge; says, that Ambrosius was prompted to the undertaking, when he went to “ *Caer Caradoc*, where the *Gwyddfa* of the princes was.” Mr. Roberts, in his translation of this Chronicle, supposes Salisbury (or Old Sarum) rather to be meant: but he very properly adds, in a note, (p. 126,) that the term signifies a *place of view*, and probably here meant the place of the *assembly of the princes*. This precisely answers to the most probable designation of Avebury, a place of view, or theatre, where the British chiefs assembled, amidst many thousands, or myriads, of spectators. If Ambrosius proceeded thence, as the Chronicle represents, immediately to the spot where he ordered the erection of Stonehenge, the manner and the materials of its construction would naturally be suggested to him by the scene which he had recently quitted. That it bore, at that time, the British name of the celebrated *Caractacus*, the last military sovereign before the Roman Conquest, cannot imply him to have been its *founder*. Had it been so recent, some trace of the time of its execution would doubtless have been preserved; and its superior antiquity to Stonehenge is apparently too great to accord with the interval of only a few centuries. The turbulent period



in which he lived, was also wholly unadapted to such a performance."

Such are the opinions entertained by Mr. Greatheed respecting the monuments of Stonehenge and Avebury, and these appear to be supported by rationality, probability, and learning. It is not only probable, but almost demonstrable, that Avebury is of far greater antiquity than its more noted rival. To what uses these astonishing structures were appropriated, is a question calculated to excite much ingenious speculation. It would certainly be gratifying to ascertain the time of their formation,—the purposes to which they were applied,—as well as the rites, ceremonies, and civil polity of the people who raised them. These may be considered the greatest desideratum of antiquarian research; but will probably ever continue such: for it is not likely that any document will be found to elucidate those points, or that such evidence will be adduced as shall be demonstrative, explicit, and unequivocal.

The *village* of Avebury stands within the circumference of the ditch enclosing the monument; and is in part built with the stones which composed it. The only edifice here claiming the attention of the topographer is the church, which is a stone building, consisting of a nave, two aisles, and a chancel, with a square tower at the west end. Part of this structure is of high antiquity, and unique in its architecture: but the period of its erection is uncertain. The aisles were, till lately, divided on each side from the nave by two plain and simple arches, supported by square piers, which would bespeak a date anterior to the Conquest. Attached to the angles were small mouldings resembling columns, with bases and capitals.\* The font in this church is an ancient, curious

\* This curious church has lately been much injured by the folly of its churchwardens, and the ignorance of a mason. Some alteration was deemed necessary, and it was soon determined to destroy the old, simple arches, take away the substantial and venerable piers, and supply their place by tall, *Ge...*agre arches, and thin, slight columns. Thus what was formerly a very the above, *the above* interesting specimen of ancient architecture is now mean, puerile, and steeless.

curious example of church ornament. It is of a circular form, and is elevated on a basement of stone. Round its upper compartment it is enriched with a scroll nearly resembling that which is frequently used in Grecian architecture; and beneath it is a range of intersecting, circular arches, resting upon twenty-two pillars, the bases of which are fixed upon a fillet surrounding the font. The tower here is surmounted by battlements and pinnacles; and there is a range of battlements also on the south side of the body of the church. The entrance door-way is formed by a semicircular arch, adorned by zigzag mouldings, and springing from "Saxon capitals." Here are some monuments to the memory of different persons named *Truslowe*.

Avebury does not appear from record to have been a place of any political importance at the time of the Conquest, or since. In the reign of Henry I. the manor is mentioned as having been then given by William de Tankerville to the Benedictine monks of St. George of Boscherville, in Normandy, who established here a small priory. This cell, in the reign of Richard II. passed into the possession of New College, Oxford; and in the time of Henry IV. it was annexed to the collegiate church of Fotheringhay, in Northamptonshire, and, as parcel of its possessions, was granted, 2 Edward VI. to Sir William Sherington.

In the vicinity of Avebury are several objects, which originally belonged to, or were connected with the great Temple. These are barrows, cromlechs, stones, roads, and other earth works. About one mile north of the village is a fallen cromlech, of which Stukeley has given a print, and a description. On the ridge of hills east of Avebury are several tumuli of various shapes and sizes, and on the same hills are prominent traces of the *Ridge-way*, which was considered to have been a British road, and probably was the great line of approach to the temple, from the central and northern parts of the island. On the brow of a hill, about a mile and half south of Avebury is a large barrow, called by Stukeley the Druids-barrow, and which was formerly encompassed

passed by a series of upright stones ; but most of these have been removed.

The most remarkable and popular object of this district that remains to be noticed, is a vast barrow, called

SILBURY HILL, situated about half a mile to the south-west of the centre of Avebury great circle. This immense tumulus, which far exceeds in dimensions every other barrow in Great Britain, or perhaps in Europe, rises from a small valley, watered by the river Kennet, which is here only a very small stream. Most antiquaries are agreed in the opinion that it is of artificial construction, but different notions prevail as to the period of its erection and the intention with which it was formed. The most common belief, however, is that it is the sepulchral barrow of some British king. Mr. Greathed, as before mentioned, considers it to be the tomb of Prydain, the first chief of the British confederacy, and the person whom he supposes to have been the founder of Avebury ; and Stukeley calls it the sepulchre of Cynnedd, one of his supposed predecessors. It measures 1680 feet in circumference, or 560 feet in diameter, at the base ; and at the summit, which is 170 feet in perpendicular height, it is 315 feet in circumference or 105 feet in diameter. From the conical shape and isolated position of this mount, it forms a marked contrast in appearance, to the undulating chalk hills by which it is surrounded.

At a short distance from Silbury Hill, on the north side of the turnpike-road, numerous large stones are seen lying in different directions on the surface of the ground. These stones are indefinite both with respect to size and shape, and likewise as to number, and have excited much popular wonder, on account of their magnitude and singular appearance. From their long exposure to the atmosphere, they are encrusted with various lichens, which at times give them a darkish hue, from the decay of the vegetable matter ; whence, and from the circumstance of their resembling at a distance a flock of sheep, they have received the appellation of " Grey-Wethers." As no quarries, or  
strata

strata have hitherto been found to produce stones similar to them in composition or quality, their origin and formation are questions not perhaps unworthy of scientific investigation. Many of the largest of these stones being covered with coppice wood are hid from public view. One group of these stones was noticed by Stukeley, who conjectured them to be remains of a "Celtic temple."\*

CLATFORD, is a small hamlet situated about three miles to the westward of Marlborough, and two miles east of Avebury, on the southern bank of the river Kennet. It was anciently the site of an alien priory thus mentioned by Tanner in his *Notitia*:—"Clatford. An alien priory to the abbey of St. Victor in Caletto, or en Caux, in Normandy, which was founded by Sir Roger Mortimer temp. Will. Conq. This manor of Clatford was in the tenure of his son Ralph de Mortimer at the time of making the Domesday-book; so that he or some of his descendants were donors probably of this estate here to the above mentioned foreign monastery in the time of K. Henry 2, or before. It was by K. Henry 6. granted to Eaton College, and confirmed by K. Edward 4. but was shortly after resigned to the Crown in exchange for Bloxham, &c. and thereupon granted, 1 Ed. 4. to Edward, Duke of Somerset."

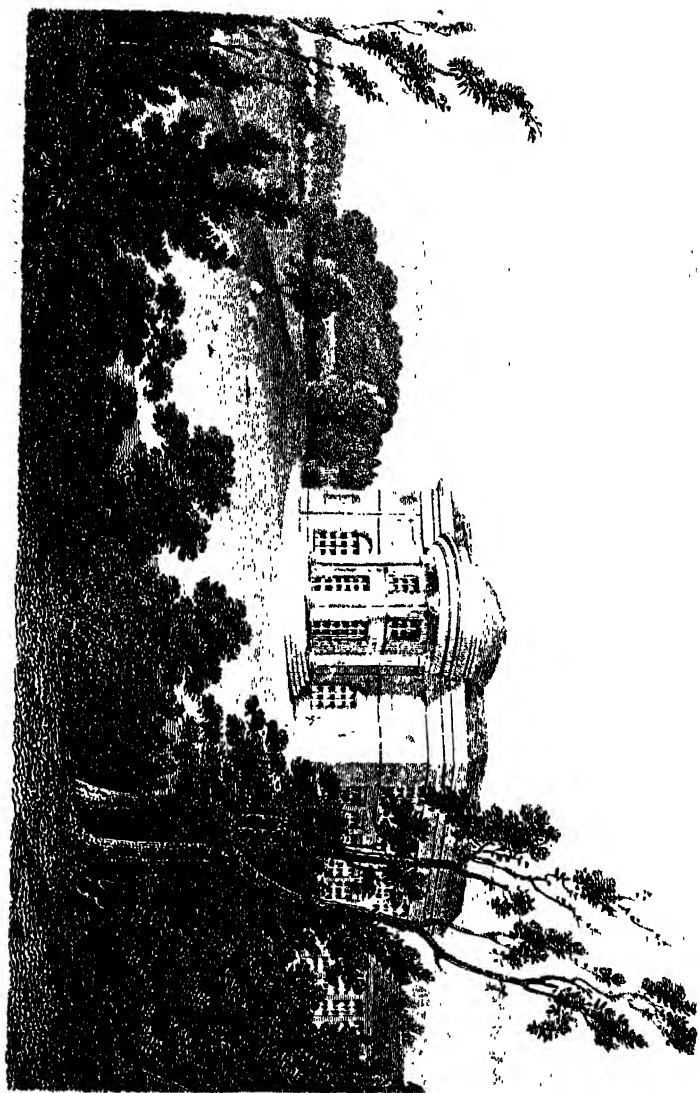
In the valley, called from this hamlet, Clatford-Bottom, is one of those ancient monuments designated *Cromlechs*. It is formed of two upright stones, supporting a vast flat one as an impost. Two other stones, which formerly stood erect, are now lying on the ground; one of them in contact with the western upright. From the great breadth of the supporters, this structure assumes the appearance of a sort of cave. Such monuments as these are generally characterized as Druidical. According to Mr. Pegge and Mr. Toland, they are altars, or places of devotion; but Dr. Borlase and Mr. Watson contend that they are sepulchral; and it is undoubtedly true that human deposits are cromlechs,

sometimes found under them.\* In Scotland and in Ireland; cromlechs, in some situations, are traditionally said to be memorials of Danish battles.

WANDSDIKE, with a slight notice of which we shall conclude this essay, is commonly supposed to have been the boundary ditch of the Belgic Britons. It remains still in almost perfect preservation in many places, and is certainly one of the greatest curiosities of antiquity. This immense ditch and vallum is conjectured to have commenced near Andover, in Hampshire, whence it passes in a strait direction to Great Bedwin within this county, and continues its track through Savernake Forest, and over part of the Marlborough Downs, where it appears in its pristine state exceedingly deep, and flanked by "a very lofty mound, after the manner of the elevated rampire of a castle, attracting by its singular appearance the attention of the curious traveller. Quitting the Downs it visits Calston, Heddington, and Spye Park, crosses the river Avon, near Benacre, and again after being lost in tilled fields, meets with the same meandering river at Bath-Hampton, where it enters the north-west portion of the Belgic territories. Its course is then continued, over Claverton Down to Prior Park, Englishcombe, Stanton-Prior, Publow, Norton, Long-Ashton, and terminates in the Severn sea, near the ancient port of Portishead, forming a line of upwards of eighty miles in length, in more than three parts of which it is still visible."†

\* Vide *Archæologia*, Vol. II. p. 362.—Vol. IV. p. 110, et seq.—Vol. XIV. p. 227.—See also Vol. II. of this work, in the title page of which is a view of a large cromlech: and in the volume are accounts of some of these monuments.

† Collinson's *Introduction to the History and Antiquities of the County of Somerset*, p. xxii.—See also Sir Richard Hoare's "*Ancient History of South Wiltshire*," p. 19.





## ERRATA.

The reader is solicited to make the following additions and corrections in the preceding pages: and also to make allowance for typographical errors.

P. 56. On more mature deliberation we are induced to conclude that Clarendon Forest never formed any part of the New Forest; nor is it likely, that Edward the Martyr had hunted in the forest on the day previous to his murder.

P. 61. The *Salisbury and Southampton Canal* has never been completed, but, the parts that were hollowed have been partly filled up.

Do. The manufacture of Wilton carpets is relinquished.

P. 67. For *Grove Park*, read the *Grove*, near Watford.

P. 94, line 18. For *eleventh*, read *twelfth*.

P. 131. Last line but one of the note, read *Henry II.*

P. 180. The monument at the east end of the south aisle, commonly attributed to Bishop Wickhampton cannot belong to that prelate. Its style is evidently as late as the time of Henry VII.

The Gorges monument is at the east end of the north aisle.

P. 201. Read *ROCHEL-COURT*, for *ROACH-GREAT-COURT*.

P. 466. Insert *Abraham*, in the blank.

P. 474. Last line, dele *Cooper*, and insert *Crabbe*, author of *the Borough*, and of several other interesting poems, who was presented to the living by the Duke of Rutland.

P. 486. Add—the daughter and heiress of Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland, by marriage with Edward, Lord Hastings, carried with her 87 manors out of the Hungerford family.

P. 487. After *Baynton*, of *Spye-Park*, add—who dying insolvent, they were resold, under a decree of chancery, to Joseph Houlton, Esq. one of whose descendants, a daughter and heiress, married James Frampton, Esq. after whose death, without issue, these estates reverted to the Houltons.

P. 495. *Munkton Farley* belongs to John Long, Esq.



*THE Proprietors of the BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND congratulate their readers in being able at last to present them with Mr. Britton's Beauties of Wiltshire; had that Gentleman been as expeditious in the execution of the task allotted to him, as they have been liberal in rewarding him, the Public would have had no cause for complaint, but such has been the turpitude of Mr. Britton and his co-adjutor, that every obstacle they could invent has been practised to impede its progress; and even now, when by the exertions of the Proprietors there is a fair prospect of its being brought to a speedy termination, they have thought proper, in the Preface to a work just finished, intituled "The Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain," to which the name of Mr. Britton is affixed as Editor, to throw out aspersions against the late worthy and respected, though unfortunate Publisher, which shews a malevolence of heart, only known, it is hoped, to persons like themselves.*

*It would occupy too much of our time now to reply to the scandalous insinuations of these ANTIQUARIAN QUACKS, but we assure them that we are in full possession of facts sufficient to do away any impudent falsehoods they may invent, to serve their own purposes or prejudice the Work.*

Sept. 30th, 1811.

*We have suffered the last paragraph of Mr. Britton's preface, in the present Number, to stand as he wrote it; although we do not know what "circumstances connected with its publication" could hinder him from paying that just tribute of respect in mentioning the names of those persons who assisted him.*





